
Invincible Saint ~ Salaryman, the Path I Walk to Survive in This Other World~

– Book 2 –

The Labyrinth and the Valkyrie Paladin Corps

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Synopsis:

One day, Earth's God of Destiny, and Galdardia's Chief God had a bet.

The God of Destiny lost, and chose ten mediocre souls to hand over.

To those ten souls, the Chief God of Galdardia handed them new vessels.

*And amongst those mediocre souls was one salaryman who fought against his
destiny of death.*

*How will this man grow from now on? Not the God of Destiny, nor the Chief
God of Galdardia, nor even the author themselves know.*

[Translated by: Tseirp Translations]

Chapter 12

Holy Attribute Magic,

The price of treatment

During the 5 days of being jolted around in the horse-drawn carriage, we were attacked by monsters several times along the way but Bazzan-san and his party trampled on them easily.

Along the road we stopped by a village with an inn. As a result of successful negotiations, we were able to receive food and bedding by simply casting healing magic.

All the negotiations were done by Bazzan-san and his party.

For some reason some of the villagers worshipped me when I applied healing magic for treatment. But I was told to not worry about it because in exchange we received a sumptuous meal and clean bedding.

I was prepared for camping out during the journey. However without even camping out, we had arrived at Saint Schull's church's Healer's Guild Headquarters located within the Saint Schull Holy City of the Saint Schull Allied Nations. *(TL: Omg they really love that Saint Schull huh.)*

When I first heard the names, I thought to myself wasn't Schull too overused? When I asked that, apparently it was a taboo ... Bazzan-san and his party warned me against speaking about it.

"Bazzan-san, Skyros-san, Basra-san, thank you for the escort."

I bowed to the three of them while thanking them.

"Well it's only natural that we accepted the request when not only were we nominated by the Adventurer's Guild, you are also our lifesaver."

Basra-san glanced at the other two and said so.

“That’s right. Both Skyros and I would have really been in danger if you didn’t detect the poison on us. Basra would have become a one man party.”

Bazzan-san affirmed and laughed with a ferocious look.

“Yeah that’s right. I was saved thanks to Luciel-kun.”

Skyros-san also smiled and affirmed in the same manner.

“No no don’t mention it. However, talking like this makes me feel a little lonely thinking that I’m going to be away from Meratoni.”

“Well Luciel would be welcomed back with a huge welcome party if you returned but work hard to memorize whatever’s inside those spell books in the Healer’s Guild Headquarters.”

“That is true. Everyone, seriously thank you for the escort.”

“Yeah. It would have been great if we could drink sake next time.”

In the end nobody drank sake for my transfer this time around.

“Yup. I will work hard so that I can treat you all next time.”

“I’m looking forward to that.”

“Don’t become like Botacyl.”

“Okay.”

After we’ve carried out our farewells, the three of them rode the horse-drawn carriage and turned back towards Meratoni.

By the way along the way during the journey, I looked through the 7 spell books I got from the Meratoni branch Healer’s Guild and repeatedly chanted and memorized the magic within the books.

Holy attribute magic support magic 「Aura coat」 .

It could shut out miasma from the air for one hour, delay the progression of diseases and make it harder to fall into abnormal states. MP consumption is 10.

Holy attribute magic special magic 「Purification」 .

Chanting this could expel all impurities but in actual fact it is a universal magic that can even remove dirt. MP consumption is 16.

Advanced healing magic 「High Heal」 .

It boasts 10 times the recovery amount of 「Heal」 but the consumption is not small at 15 MP.

Intermediate area healing magic 「Area Middle Heal」 .

An improved healing magic over the 「Area Heal」 , it doesn't change the scope of recovery area but it increased the amount of recovery by 3 times. However MP consumption is 30 MP per cast.

Advanced area healing magic 「Area High Heal」 .

Intended as an improvement to the 「Area Middle Heal」 , the radius increased to 3 meters but the MP used each time is said to be 75.

Abnormal state healing magic 「Recover」 .

A magic that could recover poison, paralysis, charm, sleep, seal and magic-induced weakness but has no effect on petrification, curse, hallucinations and disease. MP consumption is 18.

Holy attribute magic special healing magic 「Dispel」 .

Seems to be capable of curing abnormal states like petrification, curse and hallucinations. MP consumption seems to be 60 and is said to be able to have other effects.

Yeah. The ambiguously described 「Area High Heal」 and 「Dispel」 could not be triggered due to my low 「Holy Attribute Magic」 skill level. However I did properly memorize the chants.

Furthermore, 「Area Middle Heal」 and 「Recover」 cannot be lightly used because they require a ton of magic.

“Well then, here I go.”

I fired myself up and set foot into the towering large palace without hindrance.

The inside of the building had expansive marble flooring that spread throughout the hall. There was an information counter strongly reminiscent of my previous life.

“Welcome. This is the Healer’s Guild Headquarters. May I help you.”

“I am Luciel. Affiliated healer to the Meratoni branch of the Saint Schull’s church Healer’s Guild. I have a letter of appointment to transfer to the headquarters but how should I go about doing it?”

“Please wait a moment.”

The receptionist-san held a crystal-looking item and closed her eyes.

[Is that a magic tool?] When I was thinking of such a thing, she began talking towards the crystal.

“Looks like a telepathy assist tool?”

When I murmured, the other receptionists seemingly heard it and nodded to confirm my deduction.

“That’s right. Luciel-sama is knowledgeable.”

I conversed back while feeling surprised.

“No. I don’t know the mechanism of how it works, I’ve only seen a similar magic tool in the Adventurer’s Guild.”

“I see. Oh, welcome Granhart-sama.”

I looked back after hearing that. Instead of a man with gentle features, I saw a man of around 40 years old clothed in a giant white robe looking like an adventurer.

“Are you Luciel-dono? My name is Granhart. I work as a priest here and I was the one who called you over. I will help you with your transfer so please come with me.”

He placed a hand on the wall past the reception and the wall parted open.

“Come on, go inside.”

It seems like there is a elevator in this world. I was hit by the nostalgic feeling of having not ridden in lift after so long.

“This is a magic elevator. It operates by recognizing magic power.”

Is this to prevent escape? We...well it’s not like I’m going to get killed ... I might have to think of means to escape.

“This is it.”

A voice was directed at me as I followed the guide.

“Oh? You were the one I inducted into Meratoni city’s Healer’s Guild ... Louis-kun right?”

The owner of the voice was Lumina-san.

“Oh, long time no see. Lumina-sama. And my name is Luciel. Even though my physique has changed, it’s pretty amazing that you immediately knew it was me?”

“Because the waves of your magical power was clear, I remembered it.”

Magical power can be seen? No, that’s not what I want to say.

“Thank you for your help in Meratoni. Somehow I became able to perform some novice treatment after this two years.”

“I see I see. I don’t have time now so please come to my room later.”

“Granhart-dono, please get somebody to guide him to my room later.”

” ... Yes.”

I felt that Granhart-san’s expression or rather his atmosphere became stiff.

Lumina-san left after hearing those words.

Later, Granhart-san, in silence the entire way, guided me to the room in accordance to her will and I entered.

It was a dimly lit room that you wouldn’t think to find in the same headquarters and there were whips and saws placed in the room completely reminiscent of torture rooms.

While keeping my fear in check thinking that it was a prank, I summoned what little courage I had and spoke.

“This room looks just like a torture room? What is the meaning of this?”

I decided to express my discomfort.

Maybe Granhart-san already expected that the question, he maintained his aloof attitude.

“Don’t worry, this is merely a warehouse. It’s a shortcut to pass through here.”

After he said so, the next room we passed through into was an interrogation room that looked like it came out from a drama.

Since there wasn’t any dangerous feeling, I decided to enter.

“Sit down.” Granhart said after he sat down and took out a letter.

“I was surprised when the Meratoni branch Healer’s Guild sent me this letter. You harmed the interest of other healers and made the revenue of the Meratoni branch fall. That’s what was written in the letter. So I want to confirm the facts.”

Oh~ So it’s like that. I can excel in these kind of business talks where I can speak logically and don’t need to pack all the information together.

I remembered those working days from up until two years ago.

I recalled all the memories up until right before my promotion.

I stopped recalling, opened my eyes and began to talk.

” ... The contents in the letters are in a way the facts.”

“Ho. Are you pleading guilty?”

A surprised look floated on Granhart’s face as he didn’t expect me to admit to it.

“What am I guilty of? Just after I became a healer two years ago, I received 「Taijutsu」 training at the Adventurer’s Guild in exchange for carrying out treatment within the Adventurer’s Guild. Is this a crime?”

“No it isn’t.”

“Moreover at that time I could only use 「Heal」 but they not only provided me with three meals, bedding and clothes, they even paid me salary. Is this a crime?”

“Nope.”

“This was my action status for a whole year since registration. From the second year, I was dispatched to the Adventurer’s Guild as a temporary staff. Thanks to the hard work from my first year, I raised my Holy attribute magic skill level and memorized some magic. Is this illegal?”

” ... No, these were all legitimate behaviors for healers.”

He is a little bit confused.

“In the second year, I was grateful for the salary and equipment from the Adventurer’s Guild and adventurers that was even more than the first year.”

“I find no problem with your actions. But the problem seems to be that the cost of your treatments was too cheap. What do you have to say regarding that?”

” ... What do Granhart-sama think regarding the current situation? I did not say that it is bad to obtain money for recovery magic or rather I think it is legitimate to charge for treatment as it was my work.”

“Yup. The Healer’s Guild is such an entity.”

“The person who sent you that letter, I do not intend to pry to find out who it was ... But I heard that the Meratoni healer clinic uses 「High Heal」 to treat wounds that can be treated with 「Heal」 and 「Middle Heal」 . Due to the exorbitant prices charged by the clinic and practitioners, the patients fall into debt and become debt slaves ... I heard that there were such cowardly clinics. Comparatively isn’t this act more of a problem? I even heard that they said that it was cumbersome to display their fees in advance and sometimes they even charged additional fees. How does the Healer’s Guild manage clinics that do not do such obvious things?”

“Are you lashing out against the Saint Schull’s church Healer’s Guild Headquarters?”

“I would like it if you do not switch my words. Instead of ranting, I am asking if Granhart-dono thinks that there is negligence in the teaching of ignorant healers like me of what should be done.”

“Such as the ideals of the Healer’s Guild?”

“Yes. At the time when the Healer’s Guild was founded, I heard that the fee was not determined by lofty people. As time passed the healers began to ask for money. So far there’s no problem.”

Granhart-san folded his arm and closed his eyes.

“Continue.”

“I’ll return to the story. How do you price magic? One copper coin? One silver coin? One gold coin? A hundred gold coins? I think that what’s expensive and what’s cheap varies from person to person. As long as the guild does not specify a rough pricing, don’t you think the rest is up to the marketing efforts of the healer?”

Currently there’s no fixed price so it won’t become a problem no matter how high or low the price is.

” ... Then the healers would determine the price range depending on the various kinds of magic. Is that what you are saying?”

“That’s also slightly wrong. There is a difference in the recovery amount of a novice who had just memorized 「Heal」 and a veteran healer. Obviously the veteran would heal more.”

“I don’t understand what you are trying to say. Say it briefly.”

“This time the problem written in the letter is a problem born from the ambiguous pricing.”

“Okay.”

“You must first look at the degree of injury then present an appropriate fee. If the charges were presented beforehand then there would be no problem. Well of course this can’t be done if the injury is a life-threatening one.”

“Yup.”

“The healers belong to the Saint Schull’s church Healer’s Guild. Paying a donation, we are allowed to memorize Holy attribute magic and exercise the magic. Is the Healer’s Guild selling the spell books just for the money? No right?”

“But of course. It is used to develop new talents and pay for the Healer’s Guild maintenance cost.”

“That’s right. That’s why, by making a guideline for the prices and presenting the price beforehand, the healer profession would get more respect and people will think that it is honest work.”

It’s because there’s no insurance in this world.

“Hmm. But in the end that is just your own thoughts?”

Oh, this guy is the stubborn type.

“Just for an example, Granhart-san is going out to get food. Price wasn’t stated but you thought that according to the food’s taste, amount and materials it would cost 10 copper coins but you were billed for 10 gold coins. What would Granhart-san do?”

“Naturally I would complain.”

“At that time, “It is expensive because plenty of premium materials were used. You will become a slave if you do not pay for the portion you ate.”, is said. If Granhart-san only had 9 gold coins at that moment, then you will fall into slavery. What do you think about this?”

“Even if it’s objectionable I can only say “Yes.””

“You would ask “Why me”. It was because you didn’t know the price in advance. Not only for restaurants, if the price is presented in advance such problems would not occur.”

” ... ”

“Even in Meratoni, only healers in a few stores display their charges in advance. If people knew how much it would cost in advance, I think more people would surely visit the clinics.”

” ... ”

“But, if the situation remains as it is now, it is possible for the healers to collude with slave dealers to mass produce slaves. Now, was my healing magic too expensive? Too cheap? I do not know. But I paid for the donation each month.”

” ... ”

“So just who will decide on the prices?”

” Nu~ ... Understood. I will look into this together with the other priests and bishop-samas.”

Granhart-san was already tired.

“So what should I do?”

“For starters I’ll call somebody to guide you to Lumina-dono’s room.”

Thereafter, Granhart-san weakly returned to the corridor. The guide was worried about Granhart-san’s haggard appearance but still guided me to Lumina-san’s room.

Side Story 3

White Wolf's Bloodline and the eccentric heretic

At the rest area in Meratoni Adventurer's Guild.

My name is Bazzan. I formed a party called the White Wolf's Bloodline.

I formed the party with my childhood friends Skyros and Basra.

I am the beastman descendent of the White Wolf which is revered as a holy beast, as I was the strongest amongst the three of us, the party name was chosen as so.

In this world there aren't many lands that are liveable for beastmen.

Due to genetics, we possess both body hair that quickly grows longer as well as a tail. As a result ordinary beastmen are shunned by the majority of humans.

Amongst those, companion type beastmen were treated like pets by the humans.

On that day, by chance I came to the Meratoni Adventurer's Guild to report a B rank mission.

A lanky guy was begging the receptionist Nanaera-chan.

"If that guy acts up I'll go over immediately."

"Don't overdo it. He's so scrawny he might just die."

"Anything is fine except for that."

"I know."

It seemed like there were others who had the same line of thought as me.

Remarkably, there are various races that work in this Meratoni Adventurer's Guild.

Well there is the presence of 'Whirlwind' who is an existence above the clouds as well as the legends within the beastmen community, 'Cooking Bear' and 'Hermit-san', in this guild. Even the despicable Healer's Guild and Magician's Guild cannot touch us. *(TL: If you don't remember, Instructor Broad's nickname is 'Whirlwind', Grulga-san is 'Cooking Bear' and Garba-san is 'Hermit-san')*

When I was thinking of such things, Nanaera-chan left her seat and the scrawny man was on his own.

Normally when Nanaera-chan flees a man should chase after her. *(TL: Bazzan's wolf instinct kicking in? If I remember correctly Nanaera is a bunny beastwoman.)* And judging from Nanaera-chan's troubled smile, I thought that this human might be a rare type that can repel beastmen.

After a few minutes, Nanaera-chan brought Broad-san over.

... Is that guy fine? Even while receiving Broad-san's amazing intimidation he could still explain himself clearly.

"Don't you think that scrawny guy is pretty strong?"

"Yeah. He can even withstand that level of intimidation. He might possibly be some magician from somewhere."

My prediction at that time was totally out. No, his courage alone was first-class among adventurers so it might not have been wrong altogether."

An unusual announcement was released at the Adventurer's Guild.

The announcement content was that three days later a healer would be staying in the Meratoni Adventurer's Guild.

Although the novice healer was only able to cast 「Heal」, treatment was uniformly one silver coin regardless of race and gender.

In addition, just by looking at the scrawny physique of the man you can immediately understand.

If you pick a fight, your adventurer rank would be dropped as a penalty.

It would vanish just like that.

The first thing that surprised me was the dropping of rank. This was an unusual VIP treatment. It was even more surprising that it was the 'Whirlwind' that ordered so.

Next was the point on regardless of race. Just like I mentioned before, the beastmen were shunned and sometimes refused treatment or hit with an exorbitant price.

We were thankful that it wasn't so.

"Perhaps it was that guy from a while ago?"

"Yeah. It would seem to be so."

"A guy that had such great courage was actually a healer. Well let's take it with a grain of salt."

"It's not like it complicates things for Nanaera-chan."

"Yeah."

Thus we decided that that lanky healer Luciel was not just a simple healer.

It was our first encounter with a healer that was unlike any other healer.

Two days later we departed after receiving an request for escort from Meratoni to the Elimasia Empire.

Three months had passed since then when we returned to the Meratoni guild after the expedition ended.

"This time's expedition was much longer."

"That merchant was so impudent I almost gave up."

"Well didn't he behave himself after we defeated that monster."

"I guess so."

"Now that I think about it, do you want to make a bet if the healer is still in the Adventurer's Guild?"

"That's a good idea. I bet that he is not." Skyros was the first to answer.

"... I think he is still around." It was unusual that Basra chose that choice.

"I also think that he's not. Basra why do you think that he is?"

“Despite of what the healer wants, I don’t think that ‘Whirlwind’ would let that guy escape.”

“I see. Well then let us bet our drinking expenses later after we finish our report.”

“”Okay.””

Thus we went to the Adventurer’s Guild.

“I don’t see him anywhere. Kukuku. I’m swimming in alcohol.”

“『Che』” Basra clicked his tongue.

“Ah welcome. White Wolf’s Bloodline-sama, are you all here to report?”

“Oh Nanaera-chan. By the way, how long has it been since that healer from three months ago stopped coming back?”

“Eh? Do you mean Luciel-kun?”

“It’s rare that you attach -kun to a person. If that’s the case then he lasted longer than a month?” Skyros asked.

“Fufufu. Nope.” I had a bad feeling from Nanaera-chan’s bright smile.

“Kukuku. Perhaps he is still showing up?” Basra strangely became cheerful and asked.

“Fufufufuuu. Ah sorry. If you are talking about Luciel-kun then he currently lives in the sleeping chambers underground.”

“””Hah~?””” Our exclamations were surprisingly in sync.

After that, we heard that that healer Luciel genuinely lived in the Adventurer’s Guild and after every meal he properly finishes that drink that Grulga-san gives to all rookie adventurers.

Contrary to expectations, he seemed to confront ‘Whirlwind’ all day and was said to be addicted to training as he had only left the Adventurer’s Guild once ever since he started staying here.

“Aren’t the nicknames taste disorder, masochist and zombie rather amazing?”

“Aren’t you awfully talkative today.”

“Ah. It’s thanks to your money to buy me drinks.”

“『Che』. Well he seems like a good guy so maybe I’ll go visit him if I get injured.”

At that point in time, not only I, but also Skyros and Basra only thought of Luciel as an eccentric healer.

At that time we had no reason to know that a situation would possibly happen three months later.

In a certain mine we defeated a monster. It was a request so there wasn’t any problem.

『Goho Goho』 both Skyros and I were coughing.

In the mine we fought a monster that spat out a mist-like smoke that seemed like it would ignite us if we touched it.

“Both of you we’re reaching soon so hang on.”

“Don’t make such a face. I’m fine.”

“Yeah. Like we would die so easily. We’ll recover once we get some sleep.”

“No, for now we’re going to the clinic.”

Basra was strangely powerful at that time even though he was a magician. We obediently went to the clinic.

However, it was easy to imagine what awaited us.

“I won’t treat that dog. It will be 15 gold coins for this guy.”

“Wha?! There’s no way we can pay such an amount.”

“I don’t care. I’m busy here. If you don’t want to then go home.”

“Please, is there any other way.”

“There’s no choice. You can get the money if you sell that dog to the slave dealer.”

“Don’t fuck with us.”

“Then leave.”

Thus we were expelled from the clinic.

Skyros and I rested in bed after returning to the inn while Basra went to report to the guild.

I immediately lost consciousness the moment Basra left.

Somehow it felt warm. The sluggish feeling in my body was being taken out. It was such a strange feeling.

“I think it should be fine with this. If it still doesn’t get better tomorrow come to the guild a ... ga ... in ...”

“Are you alright ... Thanks kid. Here. 2 silver coins.

“Is it really fine with just this?”

“Yeah. It’s his wish.”

“What exactly is this healer?”

“An oddball of a healer. I don’t know what kind of life he had until now but he’s training because he doesn’t want to die.”

“Can he gain profit with just 2 silver coins?”

“The person himself said “I’m still inexperienced.”. Well if you feel indebted to him then help him out when he is in trouble.”

After saying so, ‘Whirlwind’ pulled the healer and left the room.

“Basra? Was that ‘Whirlwind’ just now?”

“Yeah. He brought the guild healer over.”

“I see. He said he was inexperienced right? Would my poison state be cured properly?”

” ... Bazzan, I will say this first, if that guy, no if that healer-sama wasn’t here you guys would be dead.”

“Ah, yeah. Hah? Is that so?”

“When I went to bring ‘Whirlwind’ and healer-sama over, ‘Whirlwind’ examined the monster and seems like this time the monster we defeated was a variant of the Gasbus

monster. Once the poison is inhaled, without appropriate magic or antidote it can't be cured."

"Hoh. Magic is great."

"I can also use magic but magic by itself is not amazing. It is amazing only if you can correctly use it."

"Huh? What are you trying to say?"

"... I've told you that if it wasn't for that healer-sama you guys would be dead. How many times do you think he casted healing magic on Skyros and you? He tried casting the detoxification healing magic again again, until the point of magic power depletion but he still continued."

"Is that ... amazing?"

"Normally it wouldn't be surprising even if he fainted. He dealt treatment while dripping blood from clenching his teeth. And it was only for 2 silver coins? Can you imagine it?"

"... Does it mean he's my lifesaver?"

"That's what I've been trying to tell you. If you ridicule that healer-sama I would doubt your sanity. That's all."

"... What's that kid called again? Luciel-kun right. I never expected that there would be such a healer."

"Hmm? Have you regained consciousness Skyros?"

"Yeah. I heard a voice calling out hang in there hang in there when I was treated and I felt a warm light chase away the darkness."

"I felt that warm light as well."

"Properly thank the healer-sama the next time we meet him."

"I know."

"Roger that."

The next day, when we went to thank the eccentric healer Luciel, he only said "It's because you didn't give up on living, it is game over when you die." before he went back to battle with 'Whirlwind'.

"Is he a saint/wise man?"

“Looking at his asceticism, he might one day become a founder of the Healer’s Guild.”

“I’ll try to return even a little of the favour I owe Luciel-kun if he meets any trouble. I’ll convey that to ‘Whirlwind’.”

“Yeah. The White Wolf’s Bloodline do not forget our obligations.”

Thus I, Bazzan and the White Wolf’s Bloodline, was thankful that we met Luciel and we rooted for his gradual growth. Three months later we became an A rank party.

When the good-natured Luciel was in a dispute with Botacyl and when he was told to transfer to the church headquarters, we couldn’t do anything. But when we were nominated for the escort request, we accepted it for 2 silver coins.

Thanks to ‘Whirlwind’ who put out the nomination request, we travelled with Luciel to send him to Saint Schull.

With this did we manage to return a little bit of favour? When I was thinking about that Basra opened his mouth to speak.

“If we travel with Luciel, it looks like it would lead to great things.”

Following that Skyros also spoke.

“Looks like Luciel-kun really is not obsessed with gold huh.”

“It doesn’t really matter if we take a slight detour.”

We slowly travelled and took 5 days to complete the journey that can be completed in 2 days.

On the way the villages we stopped by didn’t have much money and rarely had healers come by.

There were villages that tried to offer him women but he refused with a straight face and thanked them for the meal and bedding. The villagers were dumbfounded.

Here we were desperately trying to endure from laughing. As I thought Luciel is a real oddball.

As I held expectations that Luciel would one day become a big shot, I drove the horse-drawn carriage towards the town of Meratoni.

Chapter 13

The work at the guild headquarters?

After exiting a long corridor, we entered a new building and further climbed another flight of stairs before finally stopping in front of a corner room.

“Here is Lumina-sama’s private room. I shall take my leave then.”

“Thank you for guiding me here.”

After saying my thanks to Granhart-san’s attendant who lead me here, I took in a deep breath.

For some reason whenever you visit a woman’s room, you’ll become slightly nervous.

I took another deep breath and knocked.

After knocking on the door I voiced out.

“Lumina-sama, it is Luciel who you met earlier. Please allow me to visit you.”

After I said that, “It is okay to come in.” came from within. When I opened the door I noticed that it was a simple ordinary room.

Although I was surprised for a moment, I convinced myself that the torture and interrogation rooms just now was Granhart’s hobby.

“Is something the matter?”

Maybe my thoughts appeared in my attitude, she questioned me with a questioning look.

“I just came from a room together with Granhart-dono before coming to Lumina-sama’s room ... The gap stunned me for a moment.”

I smiled lightly and shrugged my shoulders.

“Fufufu. No wonder. It can’t be helped if you came from that room.”

Apparently the misunderstanding was resolved and she gave me a smile.

“Do you know the reason why I was transferred to this place ... to this church headquarters?”

“Yup. In short, to receive a warning from Granhart-dono.”

“I see. Thank you very much for both this time and when in Meratoni.”

“It’s fine. I had already received your thanks earlier. At the same time I’m bad with the formalities. Please be at ease.”

No no, I am the one that’s bad with those formal phrases. While speaking in my mind, I did not realise when I met this person previously, but now I felt that she’s definitely not a healer.

“If you insist. By the way ... ”

When I was saying until there, I was interrupted by a hand.

“First, have some tea and sit on that chair over there.”

“Ah, yes. Thank you.”

The structure of the room was 10 tatami mat sized with a floor plan of 2 by 5 tatami mats.

[It’s pretty stark huh~]

“You feel that it’s stark right?”

I was surprised by the question from Lumina-san who brought tea over fairly quickly.

“I’m sorry.”

“No it’s fine. This is only a place for me to do paperwork and sleep. I’m not here the majority of time.”

“Come to think of it, I was able to learn 「Heal」 a week after we met in Meratoni. When I asked the guild for Lumina-sama’s whereabouts to express my thanks, I was surprised when I heard that you had already returned to the headquarters.”

“In the end my job is one that requires me to move around quite a bit. Instead of that, this time were you summoned by Granhart? Or did you transfer over?”

“This time I received a letter of appointment for transfer signed with the Pope’s name.”

“To be from Fluna-sama, it seems like Luciel-kun is considerably excellent.”

“No, it’s a little different. Actually ... ”

I briefly explained the events that happened in Meratoni.

I also included the conversation I had with Granhart-san just now.

“Hmm. I see ... Certainly.”

While nodding, Lumina-san posed a question to me with an inquisitive face.

“And so, what would you do now?”

“Hmm ... Regarding that. The truth is, although I came over for the transfer, I completely have no idea what I am supposed to do now.”

“Most likely it’s up to you. You be carefree ... Speaking of which, you mentioned that just now Granhart-dono called out to you.”

“Yes. It seems like Granhart-san was called out due to the Pope’s name.”

“If that’s the case, Luciel-kun’s work might involve a little risk.”

” ... Really?”

“Yeah. However, there’s no doubt that you can expect to be promoted.”

“While practicing magic, I do not want to travel. Isn’t there somewhere safe that needs Holy magic ... ?”

“You should give up on that. Do you know the purification magic 「Purification」 ?

“Ah, yes. I am now able to use that.”

” ... I see. If that’s the case, there’s a place where you can safely level and become a priest.”

“Somewhere where you don’t get slashed by swords, stabbed by spears and suddenly thrown ... If it’s a place safer than that I think I can work hard.”

“What kind of hell is that? ... Well never mind. Actually, in the basement of the old building of the guild headquarters, the cemetery where the founders were enshrined became a labyrinth several decades ago.”

“A labyrinth?”

“Oh. A labyrinth is a place where it is easy to accumulate magic but as the magic accumulates, the hatred and desires of the living is absorbed, giving rise to treasures and monsters. It is a nest for adventurer’s who dream of striking a fortune.”

“I’m surprised. Weren’t you supposed to be ignorant?”

“I studied. Just in case you’re wondering, now I know the names of the cities and villages.” *(TL: She believed that he was ignorant when they first met because he didn’t know the name of the village he lived in. XD)*

“Kukuku. Now that I think about it, it was like that huh. Going back to the topic, it is going to be a job to prevent monsters from crawling out of the labyrinth by keeping a lookout and thinning out the monsters.”

” ... By the way, what monsters appear there?”

“As expected of a graveyard, only undead-type monsters like skeletons, zombies and ghosts appear. Once you use 「Purification」, they will disappear all at once leaving only the magic stone. Because of that the money you get isn’t small pocket change but nobody wants to do this job.”

“That’s why people from the outside are roped in to do the job?”

“Yeah. Normally healers do not train in matters such as combat and the majority of current healers rose up in ranks using gold.”

” ... Are there any merits?”

“There are. Anything you pick up in the dungeon belongs to you and you can sell the magic stones. Nobody would complain about you and nobody will snatch from you.”

“Ooo. There’s also a place to become stronger here.”

“If your luck is good you can obtain treasures as well. By selling the magic stones, it is also possible to buy the expert-level spell books. *(TL: Spell book ranks for now are beginner → intermediate → advanced → expert)*

“If I get bitten by a zombie, would I turn into one as well?”

“What kind of nonsense is that? You might get poisoned but I’ve never heard of zombification.”

“I’m relieved to hear that. ... Seriously.”

“The demerit is that the labyrinth is exceptionally smelly. Inconceivably smelly. The smell of the labyrinth clings on to clothes so people will make a disgusted face if you come near them.”

“Eh? Something like that is not a problem at all.”

Yeah. It’s the same as after drinking Object X. Whenever I try to approach Instructor Broad he would say “It stinks” and he would either disappear or hit me.

” ... Are you really all right with that?”

“Yes it’s fine.”

It’s an excellent opportunity for me either way.

“Well it’s up to Granhart-dono to decide.”

“Yeah.”

“Oh I’m sorry but it’s about time.”

“Oh, somehow I’ve bothered you for such a long time.”

“No it’s fine. Is anybody there?”

A few seconds after she called out somebody replied.

“How may I be of service?”

“Take Luciel-dono to Granhart-dono.”

“Understood. This way please.”

“Thank you for today. There’s one thing on my mind, Lumina-sama is not a healer right?”

“You noticed?”

“Yeah, only vaguely though.”

“My profession is a paladin.”

“That sounds cool.”

“Fufufu. Well kind of.”

“Well then, if I have the chance I’ll come visit again.”

“I’ll look forward to that.”

I left the room.

“Who on earth are you?”

The attendant asked after walking away from Lumina-san’s room for a bit.

“What do you mean?”

“Usually Lumina-sama is not the kind of person to laugh nor does she converse for so long.”

“I see. Maybe in Lumina-sama’s eyes, I’m like a stray dog that she picked up.”

“Stray dog?”

“Yeah. Two years ago on the day I became a healer, I left the countryside without any personal identification. Just when I was denied entry into Meratoni city, Lumina-sama came over and guided me to the Healer’s Guild.”

“So that’s why. ... Wait, you are still seventeen years old?”

“Yes. I’m a seventeen year old greenhorn. I’ve been transferred to the headquarters so if you see me around please call out to me.”

“Okay got it. Oh, I’m Lucy. I’m something like an attendant to Lumina-sama.”

“I’m Luciel.”

“If there’s anything you don’t know, you can rely on me.”

“Thank you for that. And it’s nice to meet you.”

“And so why did you come to the headquarters ...”

While we talked about official matters regarding my transfer to the headquarters, somehow we arrived at the topic of Holy Attribute Magic skill level and she complimented me saying “Luciel is amazing.”

“Oh, here’s Granhart-sama’s room. So I guess I’ll go now.

“Thank you Lucy-san.”

“No problem. See you.”

She returned towards the direction of Lumina-sama’s room.

『Kon Kon Kon』

“This is Luciel who you met earlier.”

“Ah ... enter.”

What was with the ‘Ah’? Don’t tell me he’s already forgotten about me.

“Pardon my intrusion.”

I switched my mood and turned the doorknob. Once inside I saw a pale faced Granhart-san that looked like he was going to be buried under documents.

“Thank you for your time earlier. I have returned from meeting Lumina-sama.”

“Okay. Oh, this is your written appointment. I’ll have someone guide you to your room after you’re done.”

Letter of Appointment

Assigned to the exorcism combat unit, Saint Schull’s church Healer’s Guild Headquarters.

In consideration of your current A rank, you are ordered to concurrently serve as both a cleric and an exorcist.

“What does this mean?”

“Luciel-dono will be tasked with exorcising undead from a certain place from tomorrow onwards. Your salary will be 20 gold coins every month.”

“Hah? 20 gold coins?”

A monthly income of 20 million yen? Is this heaven?

“Yes. Tomorrow is your first day so go to sleep early today. Oh, before that I’ll have someone guide you to the dining hall and your room.”

“May I request for someone who could guide me to the training field and Adventurer’s Guild as well?”

” ... Today you will only be guided to the dining hall and your room.”

Thus I was guided to the dining hall and my personal room. I placed my luggage in the room built the same as Granhart-san and Lumina-san’s room.

Later, after muscle training I went to the dining hall. The chef served me my meal even though he was shocked and exclaimed “You’ve still have not eaten?”. When I returned to my room I took a barrel out from my magic bag and transferred the little remaining Object X into a cup and drank it, and slept after doing some magic training.

Chapter 14

The Undead Labyrinth

Early in the morning, I got up early as usual and headed to the dining hall while trying to ascertain the maze-like passages in the church headquarters.

“Oh, aren’t you the new hire. Why are you awake so early?”

I bumped into the obachan (aunty) who served me my dinner yesterday.

“Ah, good morning. I’m Luciel. I’ll be in your care from today onwards so nice to meet you.”

“Oh dear so polite. I think being a healer at the headquarters is very difficult so good luck.”

“Hahaha. Well I’ll do my best. Also actually, I’m early because I don’t know around when breakfast starts, and I’d like to ask in advance do you know about Object X?”

“No. I have not heard of it. What is it?”

“No worries, it’s okay if you don’t know about it. Oh, also how can I go to the Adventurer’s Guild?”

“Ah~ For individuals below the rank of priests you would need to get a permit to exit the premise, without it you are not allowed to go out.”

” ... As expected. So when does breakfast begin?”

“Usually it starts after about two hours later. All the priest-samas here all wake up late.”

” ... No wonder. If so, is there anywhere like a training field?”

“I think there is but I don’t know where it is.”

“Is that so ... I understand. I’m sorry that I ended up barraging you with questions. Later is it okay if I ask you to pack bento for me?”

“That is fine but where would you be going to?”

“Well I’m just going to do my job.”

“Okay. Don’t overdo it too much.”

“Hahaha. I’ll see what I can do.”

I returned to my room to kill time by practicing magic before finally having my meal and placing the prepared bento into my bag, and headed to Granhart’s room.

“You’ve arrived.”

Apparently Granhart-san was already waiting and beside him stood a young man that looked slightly older than me.

“Good morning. I’m sorry that I kept you waiting.”

“Hahaha. It’s okay. At any rate Gran-sama didn’t set a specific time to meet.”

“That’s not the case ... ”

“You didn’t right. I’m Jordo. Your predecessor.”

“Oh sorry. I’m Luciel. From today I will take over your responsibility. Nice to meet you.”

“First of all, take this.”

Granhart-san forcefully entered the conversation and passed me a white robe.

“That’s a unique robe, given to headquarter healers, knight and Healer’s Guild healers of above A rank, woven with a holy silver thread making it capable of blocking miasma.”

” ... It looks expensive.”

“It costs 10 pieces of white gold. Once you put that on, don’t do anything foolish that can undermine the authority of the Healer’s Guild.”

“Certainly.”

“Next, I’ll pass this to you.”

“This card is?”

“With this, you don’t need to find me each and every time for permission to leave. I don’t have time so absolutely don’t give me any trouble after I pass this to you. It is forbidden to bring seriously ill people, children, pet or frankly anybody in to the guild headquarters. If you don’t swear to this I won’t pass the card to you.”

” ... I swear.”

“Okay. The witnesses are me Granhart and Jordo.”

After the simple declaration the card flashed for a moment.

“What was that just now?”

“It was your pledge. If you break your promise, you won’t be able to use the card. If that happens, you would be penalised so beware.”

“You’d seriously better don’t do so. The church’s penalties are unusually severe.”

“Understood.”

“Jordo, I’ll leave the rest to you.”

“Understood Gran-sama. Well then, follow me.”

Thus in this manner I took my first ride on the magic elevator towards the basement since arriving at to the church headquarters.

“If you walk a bit from here, the shop will be visible.”

As Jordo-san said so, we walked towards the light up ahead.

As the elevator was emitting light faintly, I was relieved that I can likely return and I followed behind Jordo-san to enter the room where the light was spilling out from.

“Surprised?”

Jordo-san said so while showing a boyish smile overlooking the room.

It was exactly so.

Similar to how it looks like in games, swords and armour were beautifully decorated and spell books were arranged in a cramped manner.

“Here you can exchange the magic stones from the labyrinth for points. By accumulating points you can exchange it for anything here. You can also exchange for spell books that are only obtainable here. Since there’s nobody around at this time, lets immediately open the labyrinth door here.”

The moment the door was opened, I was stuck by an oppressive feeling like I’ve never felt before.

“From here it’s already the labyrinth.”

I casted 「Aura Coat」 .

We approached a flight of stairs just after walking a little.

“The monsters will come out from here. Well just watch.” Just like he was going for a walk, in front of the zombie that appeared, the accustomed Jordo-san began chanting.

“By the hand of holy healing, by the breath of Mother Earth, I wish for no harm onto my body and myself, return the unclean existence to its original path. Purification.”

As a result the magic flew towards the zombie, when it hit the zombie the light immediately spread around it and the zombie disappeared, leaving a small red magic stone.

“From today this will be Luciel-kun’s job. The undead will flock to the living so please defeat them using 「Purification」 .”

“If I couldn’t use 「Purification」 , what did they expect me to do?”

“They would have you memorize 「Purification」 via actual combat. 「Purification」 is not a singular spell but instead made up of multiple Holy waves so please properly defeat them.”

“Well then, please return after recovering these magic stones.”

After he said that, Jordo-san left the labyrinth.

“Even though it’s smelly he didn’t have to leave in such a hurry ... Okay. Lets proceed safely.”

I equipped the weapons and armour taken out from the bag and put on my robe once again. For the first time since my reincarnation, I began my dungeon attack.

“It’s pretty bright in here.”

Maybe as a result of transforming into labyrinth, the labyrinth was bright as if it was illuminated by magical tools. Rather than call it a labyrinth or a pseudo-labyrinth, isn’t it closer to a training field? It was a place that made people doubt so.

“However, I wish something is done against this putrid odour. Although it is too impossibly smelly for normal people, for me who continued drinking undiluted Object X, it is at the level that I can easily endure.”

“I wonder if I should continue while mapping the place out? and ... Zombie discovered. Furthermore I hear multiple of them. Oh dear God, Buddha, ancestors, please lend me your strength.”

I began to chant quietly in anticipation of the zombies.

“By the hand of holy healing, by the breath of Mother Earth, I wish for no harm onto my body and myself, return the unclean existence to its original path. Purification.”

“By the hand of holy healing, by the breath of Mother Earth, I wish for no harm onto my body and myself, return the unclean existence to its original path. Purification.”

“By the hand of holy healing, by the breath of Mother Earth, I wish for no harm onto my body and myself, return the unclean existence to its original path. Purification.”

Except, instead of only one I chanted 3 in succession.

Oh man~ real zombies are really too scary. I unconsciously muttered a string of chants.

Well it’s the same at first even for the game that requires you to shoot zombies with a gun. But this is not a game.

Without noticing, the zombies disappeared and 4 magic stones rolled onto the ground.

“Eh wasn’t there only three of them? Was it because I was nervous? Oh well it doesn’t matter. I somehow won anyway.”

I picked up the magic stones and immediately opened my status screen first.

“? ... My level didn’t rise? Huh? Why?”

I was startled by the fact and involuntarily looked not twice but thrice. Normally you'll level up if you defeat monsters.

I've heard that if you defeat a monster when you are level 1, even if you defeat the goblin of the same rank, your level would rise.

"Damn it. Don't tell me this a training field made using illusions by some sage."

Right at the moment I had that thought, I realised.

"Is this a prank? But if I can get 20 million yen a month like this, I'll just keep using this training field over and over."

(TL: From here on the author wrote in third person but I'll continue using first person.)

Thus I channelled magic power into the sword I received from Brod and either slashed the zombies or grasped their heads and chanted 「Heal」 to eliminate them.
(TL: Lol imagine Luciel grabbing a zombie's head.)

However, "It stinks!!" I used purification magic to remove the smell from my hands.

I passed by any stairs I saw and defeated zombies while roaming around the first level of the labyrinth. To prevent myself from getting lost in the first level, while walking round and round until I got dizzy, I drew the map in my head.

"I screwed up. It would have been great if I brought along parchment, ink and a pen."

The first level was roughly 300 meters square with path widths close to 5 meters which didn't inhibit movement during combat.

While training Holy magic using purification magic, whenever my MP was low I channelled magic power into my sword and slashed zombies with it.

Although magic power was channelled into the sword, MP is only consumed during a slash so MP consumption is only 1-2.

To me who could only be caught by Brod using his full power, I felt that the zombies' movements were too slow and once again determined that this was an illusion, so my shoulders relaxed and I became able use my original movements.

After I continued walking until I determined that I won't get lost anymore, I thought [Maybe I'll proceed to the second floor] and confidently descended into the second floor.

“The second floor is also bright as well. This is this world’s equivalent of a test of courage by bringing back the treasure chest but I refuse to be harassed.”

I continued to explore around the second floor.

“Ooh. There exist a zombie that can subdue zombies? A ... Ah is that a ball of fire? What was it called ... will-o-wisp? Or was it will-o-the-wisp?”

I decided to test my purification magic infused sword attack on the new monsters.

“Uwah, weak.” When I attacked while intentionally restraining myself, the ball of fire was extinguished.

In that fashion I found that the second floor had nothing and after I determined that I won’t get lost, I thought to myself [Shall I have my lunch here].

I took out my bento and Object X and began eating in front of the stairs leading to the third floor.

“Since the air seems bad, I’ll cast purification magic 「Aura Coat」 onto the bento as well.”

In this manner even when I was having my meals the monsters didn’t approach me.

“What was with the “Undead will flock to the living”. Jordo-san must have been told so as well by the former person-in-charge.

With my belly filled and after drinking Object X, I explored the third floor in the same manner.

However, I was quite flustered and randomly fired purification spells when I encountered a flock of skeletons. For that reason I was forced to the brink of magic depletion so I thought that some reflection was necessary.

After that I somehow recovered and trained in the third floor, before casting purification magic on myself and escaping from the undead labyrinth.

The fact that this labyrinth was real and had already taken the lives of numerous healers, priests, priest knights and paladins was only known to Luciel a long time from now.

Chapter 15

The wrongly pressed button and the rumoured urban legend

Upon walking out the exit of the labyrinth, purification magic 「Purification」 was suddenly casted on me.

“What are you doing? Is this a prank?”

I was slightly irritated.

“Oh, you are alive. You did not come back even after half a day had passed since you dived into the labyrinth on your first day so I thought that you had become a zombie.”

Was this person putting up an act just in case I am a person who hates people who try to deceive me?

I gently tapped Jordo-san's shoulder.

“What's with that expression!? I get it. Don't look at me with that face!”

“Oh no. Is Jordo-san an esper?”

“Erm, what's an esper?”

He couldn't understand me because I used a term from a different world.

『Kohon/Cough』 Even though I look like this, I honed my martial arts skills in the Adventurer's Guild so I know how dangerous (real) monsters are.” (TL: *The () indicates what the speaker meant in his mind. Read without the () to understand what the listener heard. Hahaha misunderstandings galore*)

“Oh~ Now that you mention it I have heard of such reports.”

“I have also understood that if I'm complacent no matter how many lives I have it would not be enough.”

“Even so that was your first actual combat right? No matter what zombies (real) are pretty troublesome right?”

“If it’s only to that extent I won’t be delayed at all. The labyrinth was bright as well.”

“Heh~ Luciel-kun is pretty strong. I didn’t advance (to the second floor) at all in the first three months.”

“Well, I intend to fight reasonable so it’s fine. From tomorrow onwards I’ll advance (further down below the third floor) little by little.”

“Ooh. So promising.”

“Oh yeah. Where should I bring this magic stone (illusionary stone) to? To the Adventurer’s Guild?”

“No, please get the store there to buy them from you.”

“Ah as expected. I knew it had to be so. It would be bad if the Adventurer’s Guild know (The Adventurer’s Guild would not buy the stones and we don’t want them to know that there is such a training ground).” I looked towards the shop counter.

“That’s right. (It would be a huge problem if it was known that there is a labyrinth in the Healer’s Guild headquarters.) Wah~ It’s a great help that Luciel-kun can quickly grasp the situation.”

“No no. Is it fine if I exchange the magic stones for points here.”

“Oh Jordo-san. So the newbie is safe.”

A young lady who was not here in the morning was at the counter.

“He’s fine.”

“Thank you for your concern. I am okay because I have slight resistance to such things (horror movies and games).”

“That is amazing”

She praised me while smiling radiantly. I wonder why I felt slightly happy.

“Please pass me the magic stones you’ve collected today.”

She was amiable because of her job.

I knew it.

“Okay.”

『Don』 Jordo-san and the lady stared with a (slightly?) surprised look at the sound of the rucksack I placed down.

“Then pardon me but please purchase these.”

“Amazing. There’s really a lot. It is not good to push yourself unreasonably. You only have one life.”

“That is right. I understand.”

“Well then please pass me your card.”

“Card? Do you mean my Healer’s Guild card?”

“Ha!? She’s referring to the card you received from Gran-sama today.”

Woah Jordo-san was revived. (*TL: He was in a daze until now.*)

“Ah I see.” I handed the card over.

“It will be 4,216P in total. This is an unusual achievement for the first day. It has been a considerably long time since I’ve seen such earnings. Well then, what would you like to buy?”

“I have no idea what’s sold here so I can’t say anything.”

“Oh I see. Everything here is up for sale. The most expensive is the finest-grade spell book at 1,000,000P. It is a first-class spell book currently at the top of all spell books.”

“Hahaha. It will be the distant future when I’ll be able to buy that.”

“Other than that there are potions as well as items to prevent abnormal status.”

“I see. Oh that’s right. What about those weapons over there?”

“Those are weapons tempered with silver or holy silver capable of damaging undead. They were all made by dwarves.”

“How much do they cost?”

“2,500P each.”

“Hah? Why are they so cheap?! That’s definitely below the original costs.”

“You can say that. Priest knights or paladins don’t come down here, whereas healers can’t handle such weapons, and even the church can’t sell them through contracts so there’s no need for them.”

” ... Even so isn’t it still too cheap?”

“While using such weapons you can’t chant magic right? Moreover if you’re an amateur with weapons you would be surrounded and eaten by zombies.”

Eh? But I can chant? Huh? Didn’t Instructor Broad explicitly say that it’s normal to be able to do so?

” ... I see. Do you have a lot of these weapons in stock?”

“I have them piled up like a mountain. At first they seemed to have been sold for 200,000P but now they are just buried in the warehouse as dead stocks.”

Isn’t this the effect of 「Great Luck」 for the first time in a long time.

“I would like both a sword and a spear.”

Yup. There was no way I wouldn’t buy them.

“Wah. The newcomer this time is really a strange child. Yup~. I’ll give you a discount since this your first time so it will be 4,000P. That’s why don’t die okay.”

“I will earn even more from tomorrow. I’m Luciel. I will be working hard here from now on so I’ll be in your care.”

“Okay. I’m Katria. Nice to meet you. Oh yeah. Jordo-san thank you for your hard work until today.”

“Eh? Ah, yes.”

I wonder what’s wrong? I felt that Jordo-san had been feeling down since just now.

Maybe he’s shocked that I learnt that the labyrinth was an illusion right on the first day?

Or maybe because he would lose contact with Katria-san?

There’s no choice I’ll try not to aggravate him today.

In this manner my job as an exorcist ended safely.

I asked for the directions to the labyrinth, the way to return as well as the location of the Adventurer’s Guild from the unenergetic Jordo-san.

Then I told him that I’ll be returning first and I boarded the elevator.

Once I’ve ascended using the elevator, I got off at the information counter this time and tucked my robe into my bag before heading straight to the Adventurer’s Guild.

“As expected it’s pretty close by.” I only walked for less than a minute before reaching the Adventurer’s Guild.

I headed towards the reception ... no towards the dining hall.

“The architecture is really the same.” And so I reached the dining hall.

“Good evening.” I called out to the waitress that was not present in Meratoni’s Adventurer’s Guild.

“Welcome. What would you like to order?”

“Yes. Please give me a barrel of undiluted Object X.”

Immediately, silence fell on the lively Adventurer’s Guild usually buzzing with noise.

” ... Er, erm, could you please repeat your order?”

“Ah, yes. Please give me a barrel of undiluted Object X.”

At that moment, a man appeared from the kitchen carrying Object X and he placed it on the table with a 『Don』 . “Drink.”

[Is this the kind of guy who rushes to drink and cheers(kanpai) others? Well it doesn’t matter.]

『GubiGubi』 I drank it down as usual.

The person behind me exclaimed “He’s a monster.”

“Dysgeusia/Taste disorder”

“Isn’t that the rumoured masochistic healer?”

“That’s an urban legend.”

Although the voices all whispered quietly but oi I heard all of that.

“Puha~. Thank you for the meal. Well then could you please prepare this in a barrel?”

“Un ... understood. It’s okay as long as you don’t intend to misuse it.”

“Oh right. Why isn’t Object X called Liquid X but Object X even though it’s a liquid?”

“I have no idea. Do you have a barrel to put it into?”

“I don’t have anything that can fit that it...”

“If we prepare the barrels for you regretfully we’ll have to charge you 1 silver coin for 1 barrel.”

“Okay then I’ll have 3 barrels today.”

“Un ... understood.”

“It sounded like he said 3 barrels.”

“It’s a monster.”

“Demon race?”

“Not to mention demons even monsters run away from that smell.”

“What kind of lifestyle does he have to nonchalantly drink that.”

“Maybe an extremely impoverished life ...”

I could totally hear everything but when I sneaked a peak a while ago they all seemed extremely strong.

In addition they all had good equipment so as to not pick a fight with them, I left without refuting them nor did I even look them in the eye.

Immediately Luciel could guess that he won’t have a home just like the one he had in Meratoni.

However, Luciel who could finish drinking Object X was whispered in the shadows as a person with taste disorder, or as a sage undergoing penance, or as a hero.

And Luciel who would one day be watched over warmly whenever he came over to visit once a month is but another story.

” ... The 3 barrels have been prepared.”

The master carried 3 barrels over with a bitter face.

“Thank you very much. Please prepare another 3 barrels next month as well.”

I returned to the guild headquarters while considering what to eat for dinner that day.

Chapter 16

Stagnant levels and the constantly advancing spirit

Once again Luciel woke up before the morning sun rose up.

“Uwah~. Ah~ sleepy. Nothing seems to be swelling up on my body so it was a hallucination after all.”

While doing my stretches, I performed appraisal to check on my magic and basic magic practice.

“Ah, 「Chant Shortening」 level went up. And also 「Remote Magic Circle」 would become level I soon.”

Although I do not use status check every day, I won't be able to confirm the skill proficiency of Holy Attribute Magic spells that I can't use right now such as 「Area High Heal」 and 「Dispel」 without checking.

“It's great that just yesterday alone I got over 800.”

Those that rose were Magic Power Manipulation, Magic Power Control and Holy Attribute Magic but Holy Attribute Magic had grown by far the most.

In terms of skill proficiency, to become level I skill proficiency needs to reach 1000. Later levels would double in skill proficiency requirement.

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Level I → 1000 | Level II → 2000 |
| Level III → 4000 | Level IV → 8000 |
| Level V → 16000 | Level VI → 32000 |
| Level VII → 64000 | Level VIII → 128000 |
| Level IX → 256000 | Level X → 512000 |

With regards to increasing skill proficiency, depending on the level of magic as well as success in triggering the magic, skill proficiency would rise by at most 5.

For example, in the case of a level I 「Heal」, together with having a target to heal, only by successfully activating the image, magic power control and magic power operation would skill proficiency rise by 5.

Upon reaching level II doing the same thing would give 4, level III would give 3, level IV would give 2 and level V and beyond would give 1.

I read spell books repeatedly, while focusing on 「Magic Circle」 that can trigger magic by chanting and chant shortening, I piled on self-study day-by-day.

For magic skill proficiency, as long as the magic is triggered it will rise. Seeing indicators of growth, I suddenly felt motivated and reach a state of having the best condition. *(TL: Confused about the magic skill proficiency part. There has never been an indicator that magic skills had levels as well.)*

“If I continue like this, it will become level VIII in half a year. The aim is counter stop by 20 years old!!” *(TL: Kansuto/Counter stop in Japanese gaming terms refer to when the counter reaches max and can't continue increasing.)*

I went to the dining hall after completing my morning training.

“Good morning. I'd like a heap of servings today as well.”

“Ara Luciel-sama, good morning.”

“Please stop that. It's fine with just Luciel. Being referred to as -sama somehow makes my shoulder stiff.”

“You are strange after all.”

The aunt laughed while saying so and served me a large serving.

“Please prepare a bento for me today as well. The serving size can be the same as yesterday.”

“Ha~ please don't push yourself too hard.”

“I'm fine. My current lifestyle is paradise compared to before (encountering the revolving lantern once a day).” *(TL: Revolving lantern = He's referring to seeing his life flash by as he almost dies)*

“It’s okay then if that’s the case.”

In this way while I was taking my meal, I looked back upon hearing “Luciel” and saw Lucy-san there.

“Ah, Lucy-san good morning.”

“Morning. Wait, I’ve heard that you have been assigned to be an exorcist?”

“Yeah. You’ve got the news so quickly.”

“Are you alright? I’ve heard that (combat) it’s quite harsh.”

“There’s no problem at all (besides it’s only horror illusions).”

“I see. Since Lumina-sama is worried as well, if anything comes up that we can help with please let us know.”

“Thank you. Ah, in that case, could you please tell me where can I buy parchment, pen and ink?”

“You can find those in abundance in the supplies warehouse.”

“In that case please tell me where is the warehouse.”

“Okay. Before that will it be better if we finish our breakfast?”

“Of course.”

In this manner, I talked with Lucy-san, while she was drawn to the talk about my life in the Adventurer’s Guild, we finished our meal. After that, I was taught the location of the supplies warehouse and while carrying large amounts of parchment, pen and ink, I headed to the Undead Labyrinth.

『Guooooooooo』

“Shut up. By the hand of holy healing, by the breath of Mother Earth, I wish for no harm onto my body and myself, return the unclean existence to its original path. Purification.”

While checking the passage I’ve memorised yesterday, I drew the map on a piece of parchment.

I walked while defeating illusionary (under his impression) zombies and properly picking up magic stones (illusionary stones).

Spending around 1 hour for one floor, by 3 hours I've reached the fourth floor.

“Well then, what kind of monsters will appear now~”

By now, within my heart, I had completely dived into the labyrinth like I was playing a game.

Due to that “Despite not my forte, I'd like to try dual-wielding a short spear similar to those used by Gundam in my left hand and a one-handed sword in my right, if Instructor Broad saw this, I can only imagine the future of him rushing towards me to slash me in anger.”

Currently, I explored while holding a thick lance in my left hand which can double up as a shield using its short cross guard, and a one-handed sword in my right hand.

“Well if I gained a bad habit Instructor Broad will thoroughly fix me so I'll play around without disrupting my fundamentals.”

I drew the map wherever there were good visibility and proceeded with the feeling of exploration. The monsters that appeared on the fourth floors were zombies as well but they wandered about while dragging swords, however their movements were obvious when they came closer so I didn't have a tough time at all.

In this manner I finished drawing the maps until the fifth floor and my second day's worth of exploration came to an end.

Today's earnings was 5372P, even more than yesterday so Kartia-san was worried and told me “Truly, don't push yourself too excessively”.

“It's the beginning floors so I have no problem at all. Is it a problem after all if I earn too much (the budget of the headquarters would suffer)?”

“There's no such thing. Instead I am thankful for it.”

“If that's the case (by doing so Kartia-san would remain employed?) I'll do my best.”

“Oh yeah, what would you like to buy today?”

“Nope, please accumulate my points. I aim to buy that spell book but if I struggle in battle I'll buy something.”

“I understand. Please do your best.”

“Yes. Thank you.”

Thus the second day of labyrinth exploration ended.

During dinner I met Granhart-san, he asked me about my condition and I answered that there were no particular problem.

“Is that so. If that’s the case then it’s fine. Also for your salary, it would be credited into your Healer’s Guild account at the beginning of each month. You can verify that at the reception counter on the first floor so if necessary confirm it there.”

After only telling me that, Granhart-san left the dining hall.

“He waited here just to convey that to me, I’m gradually beginning to understand that guy’s character.”

After that, I ate my dinner alone as usual, drank Object X and practiced magic before sleeping.

In the morning the next day, I began exploring but I found that traps were planted from the sixth floor onwards.

” ... What is with this accuracy.”

I accidentally stepped on the switch on the sixth floor.

Immediately an arrow flew out from the wall, passing 2 meters right in front of me and disintegrated when it hit the opposite wall.

“Is this implying “These kind of traps will appear from here on out, tehe~” Is it that sort of notice?”

The monsters were as usual, zombie archers that approach closely even though they held a bow and arrow, and 『Kara kara』 zombie knights dragging their sword.

Ball of fire casting fireballs that do not even reach 10 km/hr with long cast times.

“I think that with these, even if I’m surrounded I won’t die.”

To think that this would become a flag, the me at that time was not aware at all. *(TL: In Japanese games this refers to a death flag or a sentence you say which leads to a deadly situation.)*

Since traps began to appear from the sixth floor onwards, I properly record down the map of the area while exploring.

While carefully examining my movements, I realised that as one descends down a floor, the number of monsters increases and today's exploration ended with only reaching the sixth floor.

Today as usual I accumulated my points, ate dinner, drank Object X and practiced fundamental magic.

“Somehow I feel that my body's condition is getting better as the days pass by. Don't tell me!! Status open ... I should have known.”

I remained securely fixed at level 1.

“Oh well it's fine. I understand. However, my status are growing little by little. I'll go with the spirit of constantly advancing.”

In this way after training, I sulked in bed and slept.

Some kind of event happened. Unlike excitement like that uneventful days passed by. I finished fully exploring up to the tenth floor in 10 days.

Although there was only 1 trap in each floor, I became somewhat cautious and there were many monsters which caused the delay in exploration.

The monsters were skeletons but skeleton knights equipped with a sword and shield and skeleton archers were spawned, the ball of fires also evolved into ghosts.

Also, as impossible as it sounds, under the command of the zombie leader, they attacked together in a group. I was surprised by that.

“Nevertheless purification magic is way too strong. It's like a cheat magic.”

That's right. Just by chanting purification magic 3 times, all the 20 monsters neatly became magic stones.

In this manner I safely finished exploring but “That is definitely a boss room.”

Thinking of what's behind the door in the tenth floor, while feeling nervous for my first boss battle I had set the goal of clearing it without taking any damage.

“Who or what would come out, are there no hints~. Oh just nice Jordo-san is here.”

I caught Jordo-san who came to the dining hall for dinner and asked him about the boss room.

“What appears in that boss room?”

“Boss room? What is that?”

“Ah~ The place that looks like it has strong monsters.”

“Ah~ah. You mean like those who attack together in a group (zombie leader group)?”

“Eh (within the boss room) they attack in a group?”

“Yeah. Anyway, you’ve already reached until there? I only reached there right before I passed on the responsibility of being an exorcist to you.”

“Thanks for the compliment. Thank you for the information. With this I can think of a strategy.”

“Mmm~ Well I’m glad that I could help.”

Thus while I misunderstood, I decided to rush into the boss room at the tenth floor.
(TL: Jordo was referring to the zombie leader commanded group and he has not seen the boss room before so it’s a huge misunderstanding XD)

Chapter 17

Complacency and the threat of the Boss room

“Body condition...good. Magic power...good. Equipment...good.”

As usual after magic training and after I had my breakfast and that, I fired myself up.

I nicknamed the Undead Labyrinth, Smelly.

Thinking back to then, I wonder if it is rare that there is someone like me who could endure the smell and explore as an exorcist.

If this was a job that all newcomers had to complete, then I wonder if I completely cleared the labyrinth in the shortest time wouldn't there be something like a luxurious reward.

Because of that thought, I felt excited with desire and ended up waking up earlier than usual.

Yesterday, I thought that it would be better to have more options during battle so from the accumulated 10 days worth of around 90,000P, I spent 50,000P to buy a holy silver bow with 20 silver arrows, even though I'm not accustomed with using them, and stuffed them into my magic bag.

Currently within my magic bag, I had the sword I received from Instructor Broad which magic could be easily channelled into (Luciel had not noticed that it's a mithril sword), a holy silver one-handed sword, a holy silver short spear, 4 barrels of Object X, a holy silver bow and a quiver holding the silver arrows.

“After I stuff this bento into the magic bag, it will be full. Once I get my salary I'll try to get a new one with greater capacity, although I don't know how much it would cost. Well then let's go.”

I set foot into the Undead Labyrinth.

I spent about 10-20 minutes exploring each floor before taking a break in front of the boss room at the tenth floor.

“Jordo-san said that they would group up. It also depends on the number of enemies but I will start with releasing purification magic and use the sword and spear to defeat the remaining enemies. If it becomes dangerous I’ll use purification magic again. Yeah, it’s simple but because I’m running solo this is fine.”

Either way this is just an illusion, this Undead Labyrinth is just a training ground for newcomers.

In such a manner I underestimated the boss room, before rushing in I placed my ear against the boss room. However I didn’t hear any sound coming from it.

“I wonder what kind of monster will appear here? Ah, to give myself a boost, I’ll enter after drinking.”

I took out a barrel and drank Object X to spur myself.

“But seriously Object X is amazing to be able to repel monsters and undead. And the person who made the magic item that causes people to experience this illusionary odour is not bad as well. Well then, let’s move on.”

Within the tenth floor, I who opened the door of the boss room experienced the true horror of monsters.

『Gyiiiiiiiii』 The rusted iron doors echoed as I opened it. I ignored the sounds and looked, realising that the inside of the room was dark.

“I don’t need such a movie set production atmosphere though.”

I proceeded with my weapons poised. 『BAAN』 Suddenly, the doors slammed shut with immense force.

However, I expected this development and did not shift my line of sight facing ahead.

At the same time the door slammed shut, the dimly lit room became as bright as the labyrinth and the monsters all appeared at once.

“Oi oi, this number is way beyond my expectations.”

There was a horde of monsters as far as the eyes could see.

The boss room was roughly 30 meters squared, within the room there were zombie and skeleton knights and archers, ghosts and Will O Wisps, basically all the enemies that I had fought until now appeared.

Although, it would not be a serious problem if it was only that.

It's just that, although I didn't intend to drop my guard and didn't feel any signs, with my back against the door, in front of me from left to right all 180°, the air was flooded with ghosts and balls of fire and I was totally surrounded.

[Although this is nerve-wrecking, it is not a big deal. Up to this point I've been anxious but somehow it is going to be fine.] *(TL: Luciel is in a state of denial XD)*

I immediately braced myself and began chanting purification magic.

【By the hand of holy healing, by the breath of Mother Earth, I wish for no harm onto my body and myself, return the unclean existence to its original path. Purification.】

But, nothing happened.

On the contrary, “I can't evoke magic power?”. This spurred my confusion.

None of the undead monsters missed my dilemma and they all started an all out attack towards me.

Since coming to this world, I encountered my first desperate predicament.

I brandished the sword and spear held in my hands while channelling magic power through them. Without any form or stance.

Consider this. Up until now I used my weapons to defeat small numbers and used purification magic to battle large groups.

Instead, now monsters are rushing towards me from all around and even from above and I can't even use magic. Indeed even though this is an illusion it is terrifying.

“Shit shit shit, stay away.”

While whining like a kid, I desperately brandished my sword and spear.

“Don't tell me this is a magic sealing room. Damn it~ Do they really not want to hand over the luxurious prize so much. But this is all due to my complacency. I am neither

the protagonist of a story nor am I a genius. I didn't gather enough information. This is all my own fault. You are a weakling. What's with the smug behaviour. Damn it."

While feeling disgusted with my own carelessness, I frantically defeated monsters with the weapons in both hands.

"Chii, it hurts even though it's an illusion. Is this the other world's version of illusionary pain? It hurts, who was it!! The one who scratched me ... It hurts, I'm telling you it hurts. Don't bite me. Ugh I'm getting angry."

I began running while pouring magic power into the sword and spear and brandishing them.

I failed my goal of winning without any injuries. However, Instructor Broad's training was more painful and far scarier.

I swung my sword "Sei", received attacks with my spear "Too naive", and slowly reduced the number of enemies.

[So this is a boss stage. If this was reality, my knees would buckle and it would be checkmate.]

Without thinking that this is reality, so as to not game over, I aimed to clear the boss room and get the luxurious prize. Converting that desire into power, I concentrated on the enemy in front of me and brandished the weapons in both hands.

I had no idea how much time passed by. Thanks to the excellent armour, all the attacks I received resulted in wounds here and there but they were all minor wounds.

Even though I defeated and defeated monsters, like a spring more sprung up in their place, the numbers did not reduce at all. But I desperately ran to not get surrounded and defeated monsters to create space.

Would it be endlessly like this? Just as I thought so, I had defeated all the undead and the floor was covered with magic stones.

"HaaHaaHaa"

I was so exhausted that it was tough to even remain standing.

My stamina and magical power was close to my limit. I was in such a state that if Instructor Broad commanded me to “Run!”, I would still run but would without a doubt fall flat on my face after running for a little.

“Even so, I’m grateful to had studied under Instructor Broad. Well then, although it’s tedious I’ll pick up the magic stones and apply recovery magic after leaving this place...?!”

I had a bad feeling and dived forward before rotating around. As I did so, 『DoooooNN』 something tremendous fell on to the place I was standing before.

From the ceiling, I felt a tremendous blood thirst that I had never felt until now directed towards me. I looked up at the ceiling.

“Oi oi, that fight just a while ago was not the boss fight? Is it such a luxurious reward? The Healer’s Guild headquarters is surprisingly stingy? Unless ... I’m just weak after all ...”

What appeared was an undead wearing pure white robes holding an expensive looking cane encapsulated with tremendous magical power. It was even wearing a crown.

“Oi oi. Why is it a Wight? The staple of Fantasy is supposed to be Wraiths!!”

I had no idea if those words annoyed it but at the very next moment, it gathered magical power at once in the cane. At the same time I felt a heightened sensation, black light began emitting from the Wight.

Compared to the enemies I’ve faced until now, the speed of the black light was clearly on a different level ... No, it differed by way too much.

I was unable to avoid the unexpected speed and my right thigh was slightly grazed by it. Right ... Just a graze resulted in the painful feeling of being burnt running through my body.

“Ugh. 【O Lord I offer my magical power to recover this person, Heal】 Damn it, why isn’t my magic activating. To only restrict my magic, that’s too cowardly.”

That’s right. I could not activate any magic.

“I refuse to die until I clear the boss stage and receive my bonus.”

I was already completely disoriented, I had confused the prize from clearing the boss room with the bonus I received during my salary man days.

Towards the Wight readying to release darkness magic at me, I threw my magic power channeled spear at it with full force.

The Wight evaded greatly without unleashing it's magic. That action seemed to say that it would hate it if I approached it and that it was scary.

The moment I saw that, I decided to go with a large gamble.

Chapter 18

Conclusion to the boss battle and negotiations with the Pope

I plunged my hand into the magic bag worn like a shoulder bag under my church robe and took out the holy silver bow and quiver.

“Prepare to meet your doom” I drew the bow.

『Buoooo』 Releasing what sounded like a cry, I stopped the menacing Wight by drawing the bow.

I shot an arrow towards the Wight who began to chant magic as if trying to escape from its numbed state.

Immediately I drew the next arrow and paused.

『Gyoguguooo』 The Wight screamed in anger.

Maybe it was infuriated because I interfered with its magic, or by the arrow that hit its robe, or maybe both but I felt its thirst for blood swell up.

“Just hurry up and chant your next magic.”

While spewing provocations, I recovered my magic power and stamina.

It was good that I endured Instructor Broad’s style of teaching. I’m really thankful so after I get my salary I’ll send him something.

I shot the second arrow while thinking about such a thing.

While remaining in a state of tension, after releasing the 13th arrow I decided to act on the intuition that I should begin moving at full force soon.

Katria-san said that magic cannot be used together with weapons because it is necessary to concentrate on an image when casting magic.

I was unclear whether the same phenomenon occurred in the undead but I am truly glad that it gave me a hint.

I believe that the Wight had reached its limit in hostility towards me and exuded a tremendous thirst for blood.

If it was a normal old man, I would not be surprising if it's blood vessels burst. It was expressing a look of hatred of such an extent.

“To have visible blood vessels popping out of your forehead, you must be dreadfully angry. However when somebody has been angry for more than 15 minutes, without any new stimulant to spur the rage, he would be too tired to continue feeling angry. Ah~ah. I forgot you are a monster.”

Just like that I repeatedly provoked it while taking deep breaths, looking for a chance.

After running the simulation in my brain multiple times, I ran towards the Wight at full speed after I released the 17th arrow.

The Wight tried to avoid the arrow as if it would hate to dirty it's robe, but I had closed in on it so it began to gather magic power instead using the cane in an attempt to cast magic. Without overlooking that, I shot the remaining 3 arrows towards the Wight, causing the accumulated magic power gathered in the cane to explode.

I extracted the sword I received from Instructor Broad from within the magic bag, poured every available magic power I had left into the sword, advanced the last remaining step between us and, slashed.

I slashed the Wight. It was a clean cut from the left shoulder to the right flank. *(TL: If you watched any samurai period shows or know kendo then you can imagine how he slashed him and then continued on with the momentum to end up him facing his back to the Wight.)*

However, a Wight is a high-ranking undead. It would shoot magic and steal the lives of naive people who turn their backs to it ... or not.

“I definitely felt feedback from the cut. But the guy who made this place is a devil. Of course I know that at the very least it is not dead yet.”

I turned around, picked up the short spear and channelled magic power into it before running towards the Wight and throwing the spear with full force.

As I further pushed the short spear that penetrated it's body, I rotated my body around and held the sword in my left hand with both hands and sent its head flying.

『Gugyaaaaa』 The flying head cried out and vanished like smoke.

What remained was a set of robes, cane and necklace, as well as a magic stone several times larger and denser compared to those left behind by undead until now.

“Alright~. Ouch that hurts. 【O Lord I offer my magical power to recover this person, Heal】 ”

With the boss now absent, I was wrapped by a pale light as usual when I chanted heal.

“Both games and the illusionary labyrinth in this other world work the same way huh.”

I cleaned my body using purification magic and also casted 「Recover」 just in case.

“With this I should be fine from curses and abnormal statuses. Well then ...”

I used 「Middle Heal」 to treat my wounds and left my inflamed muscles and fatigue to naturally recover.

“It would be too pitiful if I showed how weak I am the next time I see Instructor Broad.”

I whipped my sluggish body to recover the magic stones scattered throughout the room, and purified the remaining robes, necklace and cane with purification magic just in case.

After I completely picked up everything, 『Gogogooooo』 Suddenly the earth tremored and a descending path appeared.

“EH?! There’s more? But I’ve had my fill already.” I stared at the stairs leading down towards the lower floor for a while.

“I’ll be back.” I ran towards the door and prayed. 『Gyiiii』 The door opened safely.

“I really panicked for a moment there because I do not have any magic tool to return nor did I memorise any magic to do so.”

“Well then what shall I do now. Four barrels of Object X, the sword I received from Broad-san, the bento box from oba-chan ... there’s no way I’m going to leave these behind. That’s for sure. First, I’ll definitely take the three items I obtained from clearing the stage ...”

The holy silver sword, spear, bow and quiver, I could fit everything into the magic bag except for one item.

“Wait, there’s no problem if I just wear the sword? Now that I have my peace of mind my stomach is empty so let’s have lunch.”

As usual I used 「Aura Coat」 and 「Purification」 on the bento and attacked it with gusto and also drank Object X. “Ah, I forgot to drink Object X before entering.”

Today was truly tiring. I went up the stairs and escaped from the Undead Labyrinth.

Upon exiting the labyrinth Katria-san was at the counter.

“Ah Katria-san good afternoon.”

“Ara, it is rare that you return at this time.”

“Yeah. Today I received some damages.”

“There are some days when you are not accustomed eh.”

“No~ it’s more of a feeling that my complacency was doused.”

“If that’s the case then might today’s yield be low?”

“No instead it might be greater than usual. Moreover today I would like to see the point conversion up until the end?”

“I see that you are curious. Well then place your rucksack here.”

『Don』 The Wight magic stone was situated right at the top of the rucksack.

“Wha ... What is this?”

“Ah. There is the boss room at the tenth floor right? There were hordes of undead and furthermore magic could not be used. I was panicking like crazy. I somehow defeated them but then a Wight wearing a crown appeared, flew into the air and released magic towards me. I thought that I was going to die (game over).”

Incidentally, I thought of getting the cane and necklace appraised at the Adventurer’s Guild but I had no idea who the items belonged to in the first place so I decided to ask Katria-san.

” ... Why did you do something so reckless?” Eh the usual warm fuzzy aura had disappeared?

“I didn’t intend to be reckless. I had no idea that thing was there, let alone that magic could not be used there. Nobody told me that.”

” ... You didn’t receive any prior explanation?”

“Yeah. It is only the 11th day since I’ve been assigned here and it is the job of an exorcist to dive into the labyrinth.”

“That is ... right. Erm do you have time after this?”

“Yeah. I’m feeling tired today so I planned to go back anyway.”

“If that’s the case I have somewhere I would like to go together with you. Do you mind accompanying me?”

“Yeah. Sure.”

“Well for the today’s points, it is 108,914P.” Eh?

“Erm, I feel that the digits are wrong?”

“Nope, it is correct.”

“Is that so.” So that was a bonus character after all.

“Oh yeah you said you had something you wanted to show me?”

“Yeah. I could not appraise it at that moment so I used purification on the equipment left behind by the Wight after it disappeared after I defeated it.”

As I spoke while taking back my card, immediately Katria-san’s face was right in front of me.

“Show it to me!!” I found that it was really scary to be face-to-face with a beauty.

“Th ... then firstly it is this robe. Next is this necklace and lastly this cane.”

I slowly and carefully handed the items one by one to the counter.

” ... Put those back into your bag and come with me immediately.”

The next instant, the usually inactive Katria jumped over the counter and flew towards the elevator.

“Hurry!!”

“Yes.”

I had not digested the situation and just chased after Katria-san.

“Oh, isn’t it Katria-san and Luciel-dono. Where are you two going in such a hurry?” Although Jordo-san directed a question towards us “Jordo-san we are currently busy. Excuse us.” A slightly blue-faced Jordo-san gave way to us.

“I’m sorry. I do not understand the current situation as well.” I only told him that and continued to chase after Katria-san.

I was seized with uneasiness as I walked. That’s because a little while ago I entered an elevator I thought to be forever unrelated to me which was off-limits to all except for related personal.

Passing by the area for priest knights and paladin, the elevator rose beyond the area for priests and for bishops above them and for cardinals above them. *(TL: For now the church hierarchy is Cleric → Priest → Bishop → Cardinal → Archbishop → Pope. Don’t know if priest knights and paladins are within the same hierarchy.)*

This was absolutely something that I would not ride usually and definitely something that I should not ride.

During this time Katria-san didn’t say a single word. She just kept walking towards her destination, we once again rode down an elevator to stop in front of a room designated for the Pope which was above the Archbishop in rank.

Katria-san knocked “Your holiness, this is Katria. I wish for you to examine a matter of great urgency.”

“Permission granted. Enter.”

Although there were many maids present, they did not look at her, instead they directed puzzled and dull gazes at me.

Just like those that often appear in stories, something separated the audience, making it such that the Pope’s face was not visible from where I stood.

“Welcome Katria. I do not know the other person, what did you come for?” The owner of the voice sounded young, and was surprisingly a woman’s voice which sounded mysterious.

“Yes. This person is the new exorcist who inherited the responsibility of the exorcist the other day. He entered the labyrinth as per his responsibility and has defeated a tremendous number of undead.”

“Hoh. But I doubt that is all?”

“Yes. Today he fought with a Wight in the main room at the tenth floor. He was caught unaware and even had his magic sealed. And he splendidly brought back the equipment that the Wight had. Upon appraisal, I came here to make sure that it was not a false report.” This didn’t seemed like the usual Katria-san.

“Ok. I permit a direct answer. What is your name?”

“I am Luciel.”

“Well then Luciel. Take out the equipment you brought back.”

“Yes. However, since there was a possibility that there is a curse, I had activated purification magic. Please be understanding regarding that.”

“Ok.”

I passed the three items to the maid that came to my side.

” ... I thought it was impossible, but it really is. Isn’t this very robe Ozanario’s Robe that had went missing 12 years ago. And the Necklace of Spirits and Cane of Magic Disruption. You’ve done well to bring them back.”

Somehow aren’t they all great rare items?

“The Necklace of Spirits has the effect of halving all magical power consumed when using magic, the Cane of Magic Disruption not only spreads your own magic power and disturbs others from using magic as long as it is in a narrow space, it is a powerful cane that can trigger powerful magic by gathering the diffused magical power.”

What’s with that cheat weapon.

“I would like to have these items.”

It was probably absolutely impossible to refuse this. That’s because the person beside me won’t refuse. 『Bin Bin』 She was emanating such an aura. Okay then. From here on I’ll fire up my acting skills cultivated from business.

“I imagine you feel fond of the items. They even have such amazing capabilities. It is even to the extent of no matter how much it would cost to get them. I understand. I will yield.”

“Ok. Thanks for the trouble.”

“It is for you the Pope. However, I have an impolite wish. The truth is I am troubled by the small capacity of my magic bag during my explorations. Because of that, could I request for one that can hold many items?”

“Oh, do not fret about such a thing. Instead of a magic bag, I’ll give you a magic bag (backpack). The insides of the bag is a different space so it stops the progression of time. In addition you will know whatever is within the bag, and the capacity is about the size of this room. *(TL: Basically I think his current magic bag is the type of sling bag you see all around, and the Pope is offering him a travelling backpack size bag. I will continue to use magic bag to refer to it.)*

“Is it okay for me to have such a thing?” I mean this room is up to thirty tatami mat sized. ... I understand. It was the Pope who made that bag. If not such a thing would not normally be given.

“It is fine. In fact this helps me even more. Also, if you encounter anything else when you dive into the labyrinth come here along with Katria. Take the reward. Katria will pass you the magic bag tomorrow. Take it. I am indebted to you. Well then that is all.”

Katria-san and I exited with our heads lowered.

“Luciel-kun you have guts.”

“Eh? Is that so? But I was considerably tense?”

“Really? Normally you wouldn’t be able to appear modest while requesting for compensation in front of the Pope.”

” ... Was I too impudent?”

“Fufufu. I think you were fine. Because you were able to appropriately discern the situation that she was so satisfied that she even gave you the magic bag. Be at ease.” She told me so but I could not have a peace of mind.

We returned together to a place which I was familiar with and we bid farewell.

Thus at my very first boss fight I obtained a cheat item.

Chapter 19

In order to become stronger, invitation to
join the training of the Paladin Corps

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|--|-----------|
| Name: | Luciel | | |
| Job: | Healer V (1↑) | HP: | 420 |
| Age: | 17 | MP: | 160 |
| LV: | 1 | ST: | 180 |
| STR: | 73 (31↑) | INT: | 108 (36↑) |
| VIT: | 111 (50↑) | MGI: | 107 (43↑) |
| DEX: | 76 (29↑) | RMG: | 100 (46↑) |
| AGI: | 73 (19↑) | SP: | 0 |
| Magic Aptitude: | Holy | | |
| 【Skills】 | | | |
| 「Appraisal－」 | | 「Throwing IV」 (1↑) | |
| 「Great luck－」 | | 「Dismantling II」 | |
| 「Taijutsu V」 | | 「Danger Perception IV」 | |
| 「Magic Power Control VII」 | | 「Footwork IV」 (1↑) | |
| 「Magic Power Manipulation VII」 | | 「Parallel Thinking II」 (1↑) | |
| 「Holy Magic VII」 | | 「Sword Mastery II」 (1↑) | |
| 「Meditation V」 | | 「Shield Mastery I」 | |
| 「Concentration VII」 (1↑) | | 「Spear Mastery II」 (1↑) | |
| 「HP Recovery IV」 | | 「Archery I」 | |
| 「MP Recovery VI」 | | 「Chant Shortening IV」 (1↑) | |
| 「Stamina Recovery V」 | | 「Chant Termination I」 | |
| | | | |
| 「HP Increased Rate of Growth VI」 (1↑) | | 「MP Increased Rate of Growth VI」 (1↑) | |
| 「ST Increased Rate of Growth VI」 (1↑) | | 「STR Increased Rate of Growth VI」 (1↑) | |

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| 「VIT Increased Rate of Growth VI」 (1↑) | | 「DEX Increased Rate of Growth VI」 (1↑) | |
| 「AGI Increased Rate of Growth VI」 (1↑) | | 「INT Increased Rate of Growth VI」 (1↑) | |
| 「MGI Increased Rate of Growth VI」 (1↑) | | 「RMG Increased Rate of Growth VI」 (1↑) | |
| | | | |
| 「Poison Resistance VI」 | | 「Weakness Resistance VI」 | |
| 「Paralysis Resistance VI」 | | 「Seal Resistance VI」 | |
| 「Petrification Resistance VI」 | | 「Disease Resistance VI」 | |
| 「Sleep Resistance VI」 | | 「Blunt Damage Resistance II」 | |
| 「Charm Resistance II」 | | 「Illusion Resistance I」 | |
| 「Curse Resistance VI」 | | 「Mental Resistance I」 | |
| 【Titles】 | | | |
| 「Altered Destiny」 (All status +10) | | | |
| 「God of Destiny's blessing」 (Increased SP acquisition) | | | |
| | | | |
| Adventurer's Guild: | | E rank | |
| Healer's Guild: | | A rank | |

「It really is still level 1. I also didn't grow much ... Eh my status increased across the board ... Wait, isn't the increase too much? All of it increased by 1.5 times in the span of 10 days.」

After returning yesterday, I started a one-man reflection meeting for a long time. I organized the reasons why I was conceited into bullet points but became even more depressed when it didn't even fit into a single A4 sized parchment.

As for the easy to understand reflections points, although I knew that it was right before the boss fight, because I didn't put the various defense up barrier magic and couldn't use spells, I ended getting flustered and treated my sword and spear as blunt weapons.

「When a sword hit a wall or floor or a hard place, the blade will be dulled at the spot where it hit, as for the lance, rather than becoming distorted, it even became slightly bent. If instructor Broad found out, I'll definitely get scolded by him and see the revolving lantern again. And Grulga-san will definitely make me drink a whole cask of object X...」 *(TL: It seems in prev chapter, the barrel thing was a hand-sized carriable barrel, while this one refer to a wine-sized barrel)*

That might sound like paranoia, but there are several accidents in the past where that happen and I can't defy them at all. Well, they are actually good people, so it's fine.

「Should I ask if I can join the training for the Paladins and the Priest Knights? Oh that's the end for today's morning training. A~ So hungry」

After finishing the morning training, I went to the dining hall.

「Luciel」 when I was walking towards the dining hall, I heard Lucy calling me and when I turned around I saw Lucy-san, Lumina-san, and another girl.

「Good morning. Lumina-sama, Lucy-san. Also, nice to meet you, good morning. I am Luciel. 」 I greeted them.

「Good morning Luciel-kun」

「Morning」

「Good morning. My name is Kuina and I'm assigned to Lumina-sama's unit」

「Once again, nice to meet you. Kuina-san. Is everyone on the way to breakfast as well?」

「Yes. We always take our breakfast after we finish with our morning training」

「I see. I was slightly later than usual today so we actually met each other」

「By the way, It has only been 10 days but I heard that you are now being listed as a veteran」

「A~ about that..... I've been reflecting on that since yesterday」

「Fumu. If it's alright with you, tell me about that. How about we have breakfast together?」 Oh, it's only morning and Great Luck has been triggered?

「Yes. By all means, please」 and with that the four of us moved to get breakfast.

While eating the breakfast, I told them everything about the exorcising and the blunder that happened yesterday.

「... Just what in the world did you think you were doing?」 and Lumina-san was shocked,

「Are you looking for death?」 and Lucy-san with eyes full of scorn looked at my way.

「It's stupidity. You were being lucky. Normally you would have been dead」 even with this being our first meeting, Kuina spoke with words full of venom.

「A~ And here I thought you have graduated from being ignorant after much troubles, you went and did something so reckless this time」

「For what it's worth, I've been doing a one-person reflection for a half day since yesterday , so please forgive me this time. My spirit is already crumbling right now」

「So concretely what do you want to do now?」

「I would like to return back to Meratoni to train myself back so I can become stronger」

「As a general rule for healers, the transfer from the headquarters is not accepted unless a written appointment comes out」

「If you want to train, I think it can be arranged」

「Eh? Really?」

「Yes. I think it will be hard for a healer, but it is possible to join in on the training of the paladins. However, there won't be individual instructions」

「... Could I request that it doesn't interfere with my exploration of the labyrinth?」

「Fumu. Then once a week, there would be an intense training on every day of fire」

「Yes. I look forward to training with you (Yoroshikuonegaishimasu)」 and with that, it has been decided that I will participate in the paladin's training.

After receiving the lunch box and returning to my room as usual, I drank object X and walked towards the Undead Labyrinth (Temp).

Because I learned illusion resistance, I already knew that the true form of the labyrinth itself was an illusion (was what I thought).

As for the exploration from today onward, it should not be a tough fight until the boss on the 20th floor so I blazed through.

However, the exploration was really time consuming, I plan to fix my self-conceited attitude before starting to fight the boss on the 20th floor..... for the sake of the awesome reward.

Thus before I entered the labyrinth I decided to take a look at the shop first, but Katria-san was not here today, since that's the case I just started the exploration of the Undead Labyrinth (temp).

As I walked, I cast the purification magic. However, unlike yesterday, the monsters seemed to disappear completely when I had a clear image of the chanting and purification.

「A~ so nervous. It'll be annoying if a Wight appear again. 」 I cast all of my buff magic in front of the boss room. And the door that I opened closed after I entered inside.

「There really are a lot of them. I should fire the spells」 When I start to pray and cast the purification magic, most of them got erased.

「Weak!？」 With just 3 cast of purification and several attacks, the battle in the boss room finished in about a minute.

With an accompanying sound GOOOOOON the stairs appeared 「Will it be this noisy each and every time this happens ?」 and after descending the stairs, I went back to the 10th floor and confirmed that the monsters on the boss room has indeed revived.

Before starting the 11th floor exploration I took a small break inbetween floors.

「If the person who made this was the Pope, the Pope must be a reincarnated person 」 Up until the 10th floor the surface of the wall was white. But starting from this point it's red.

Well, with this it's possible to determine which floor I am on in units of 10 floors.

「SEI, TAA, WAAAA. 」 Stabbing the spear, pulling it back and then thrusting the sword. Ending with a high kick towards the zombie's head which made the head bend in strange direction, and severing it's head with the magic channeled sword.

「As expected, It really is better to be prepared to use Taijutsu. Nevertheless, it's zombies again? Certainly the appearance of the zombie feel slightly faster than before, but there doesn't seem to be any difference」

I kept advancing while picking magic stones and drawing the map. 「Is it expanding slightly?」 I kept advancing while ascertaining it. The amount of monsters doesn't differ, there also doesn't seem to be any change elsewhere.

The exploration of the 11th floor finished and based on my biological clock it should be just slightly after noon. 「If I have this monsters won't approach when I'm eating the bento. Why was this not passed on at the Adventurer's Guild?」

Luciel does not know, but when Object X is poured on grass or trees they wither, farmers fear this thing more than pests. Therefore, you can only wholesale this to a person who can drink it.

After completing the exploration for the 12th floor, today's exploration ended.

「A, welcome Luciel-kun. Then let's check your point first」

「Yes. Please do」 Crap. Yesterday's impression was too strong, it made me slightly tense.

「You don't need to be that scared you know. It's not like I will catch you and eat you. Alright. Today's earnings are 12,119P」

「I'm sorry. Since the Katria-san from yesterday was really imposing, I became slightly nervous. Are you perhaps a former paladin or a priest knight, or are you a group directly under the supervision of the Pope? I should probably stop my delusions」

「Fufufu. You shouldn't inquire on a woman too much you know? Because a woman prefer to have secrets. As for a someone who likes to pry, something bad will definitely happen to him」

「That's true. There are lots of stuff in this world that one is better off not knowing. Hahaha」

「Fufufu. A, that reminds me. This is the magic bag」

「Oo. Wait, isn't this just a bag?」

「Go ahead and pour your magic power in there」

When magic power was transmitted 「O, Oo, The color changed」

Originally it was a light brown leather bag and it's become a pale-colored leather bag.

「Right. With this Luciel-kun can be said to have a personal magic bag. To use it, Luciel-kun need to be within 1 meter of the magic bag as the condition, as for how to store an object, Luciel-kun need to touch the object and think that the item will enter to store it. And when you need to take it out, you only need to imagine taking the item out inside your mind」

「Thank you very much」 I touch the bag and start to imagine the way to use it 「Perhaps there are several volumes of spell books stored inside?」

「Correct. To make you work even harder from now on, as a service there is a set of existing magic spell books inside」

「So even that spell book there?」 *(TL: He is referring to the super expensive spell book he was aiming for.)*

「Yes. That's right」 Hasn't Great Luck been awesome lately? It's already Great Luck-sensei.

「If that's the case」 Thus I bought 4 mithril sword, 4 short spear, a bow and 5 set of quivers (20 per set). In addition, I bought several potions as well.

「You shouldn't work yourself too hard」 and she returned to being the usual Katria-san, I said my greetings as usual as I returned back to my own room.

I began putting great effort into reading the spell books that I got today and turn them into my own power. And the next day I completely finished the exploration until the 15th floor and to prepare for the paladin's training the next day I went to bed early.

Chapter 20

The Valkyrie Paladin Corps and early morning training

After waking up in the morning, I was training magical power manipulation after drinking Object X when I heard a knock on the door.

“Yes, who is it?”

“My name is Lipnea from the Valkyrie Paladin Corps headed by Lumina-sama. The morning practice is going to begin soon so I am here to call you.”

“Thank you. I will leave immediately.” For the sake of etiquette I went out after using purification magic.

Although it was written in the spell book that purification magic is versatile, it is even more effective than toothpaste or a bidet, it can remove bad breath and remove the need for toilet paper after using the toilet, a super-versatile magic. *(TL: Imagine the expression of people who found out that he uses purification magic to wipe his butt XD)* When I opened the door, in front of me was ... a woman with considerably long fluffy golden curls and a pretty face with chestnut eyes in a slightly clunky armour that strangely matches her.

“Nice to meet you I am Luciel. I apologize for your time and effort spent on me today.”

“Lipnea from the Valkyrie Paladin Corps. Not only is it an order, but general healers are prohibited from setting foot in the Paladin’s training centre so let’s go.”

So that’s why. Even though her words were dignified I somehow could not shake off the warm and fuzzy image.

In that manner I followed after Lipnea-san, opened the door and set foot into the Paladin training grounds.

“It is considerably wide.” It was at such a scale that a 400 meter track could be placed within it.

“My squad’s training ground is on the small side.” Lipnea-san answered.

“Eh? .. Heh~ Is that so.”

“You’ve arrived. Good work Lipnea. Luciel-kun come over here.”

They had already formed ranks, they had 10 people including Lipnea-san, and combined with Lumina-san it was a 11 men squad.

“Erm ... there are only women here?” I asked honestly.

“That is right. Are there any complaints?” A question was shot back at me.

“Well I understand that their abilities are several times higher than mine. But it is mentally tough for me to attack women ... ”

“I see. You are too ignorant. I’m sorry but there is a training schedule to follow. Hurry up and introduce yourself.”

“Ah, yes. I’m sorry. Nice to meet all of you, I am Luciel, currently working as an exorcist. I was allowed to participate in your training to re-train myself due to my impossible request. I might be a hindrance so please be understanding.”

“Squad, he is an oddball healer that carried out 2 years worth of combat training in the Adventurer’s Guild. He steadily trained because he could use recovery magic. Introduce yourselves to him at your spare time. That is all.”

『Yes!』

“Well then after your warm up exercises, we will carry out 1-on-1, 1-on-2 and 2-on-3 combat training. Then let us begin.” and Lumina-san began to run. Following that everyone also started running.

“Don’t stand there at a daze and come along.” said Lucy-san.

“First is just some light running.” said Kuina-san.

“Understood.” I began to run at the back of the group.

For two years at the Adventurer’s Guild, I ran at full power every morning and evening without missing a day.

So honestly, with respect to running I have no problem at all. I might even say that it is effortless. That was what I thought. But reality was not so naive.

“You’re slow. No matter how you claim that you are a healer run more seriously.” I was lapped by Lumina-san, and was also lapped by all the other Paladins.

“Ha, ha, ha” I was running with full force. However the reality was that the girls looked like they were running at a regular pace.

I was reminded that in this world physical ability is influenced by an absolute wall called status.

Regardless of the truly powerful people Master Broad told me about, it is also a fact that it is harder to die with higher physical ability.

After running for about half an hour, I was humiliatingly lapped a total of 8 times.

“Well then form teams and begin combat training. Luciel-kun, I want to know your ability so come at me with the intent to kill using your own weapon.”

“Normally one would use crushed blades?” (*TL: i.e. training blades*)

“Well. You won’t hit me so don’t worry. Oh yeah~ If you can hit me then I will listen to one of your demands.” She said with a slight grin.

“Let me show you that the differences in status is not absolute during combat.”

Thus I challenged Lumina-san with my two hand sword spear style.

“Seyaa~ Chaaa~ Uraa~”

I suddenly stabbed with the spear in my left hand, using that momentum I spun around and wielded my sword, anticipating that she would dodge those attacks I let out a kick as well. “You are full of gaps you know?” The very moment I heard that, my vision blurred and without realising I was staring at the sky.

“When did you start using that style?”

“Erm since I began diving into the labyrinth.”

“I see, it is reckless to dual-wield without having the corresponding techniques. Come at me again with what you were taught in the Adventurer’s Guild.”

“Yes.”

I prepared myself again, equipped the shield that I had left in my room for a long time since I started entering the labyrinth, and began to move according to Instructor Broad’s teachings.

I recalled the training days I had with Instructor Broad.

~Recollection~

“Luciel do you hear me, majority of the time you will be attacked by a person stronger than you.”

“Hahaha. I guess that’s how it is.”

“Yeah. The world is not so simple that the opponent would attack you alone either.”

“Yes.”

“But, you have capabilities regular combat occupations do not have.”

“Do you mean healing magic?”

“Yes. Furthermore now you can move about, brandish your weapon and use magic at the same time right?”

“Well that is because I was forced to do the same thing for a year and a half.”

“When fighting a powerful foe, chant magic while you deliberately create a large gap and aim for that moment.”

” ... But I have a bad feeling about that?”

“Usually you would take advantage of that to turn the battle around, but I cannot clearly say that you have the technical capabilities to do so, and if your abilities are too far apart you might even get countered.”

“That is why I’ve been saying since earlier that I have a bad feeling about this?”

“Deliberately take an attack from the opponent and cast recovery magic to recover while you attack your opponent. I can only think of this method.”

“This kind of desperation attack, wouldn’t it be catastrophic if I take one wrong step.”

“Don’t worry. For the remaining six months I will thoroughly handle you until you completely master this.”

“He ... Help me~”

“You don’t want to die right?”

“Yeah. I am certain I will die here.”

“For now it would be dangerous to aim for your vitals so I will first aim for your arms or legs.”

“Eh? I vaguely heard that you will eventually attack my vital points?”

“Prepare yourself.”

” ... Erm Instructor Broad? Please answer me. Instructor Broad.”

“Well then here I come.”

“Gyaaaaaaaaa”

~End of recollection~

“Why are you crying? Earlier I intended to throw you gently but does it hurt?”

“No. I recalled my training days (hellish days).”

“I see. The training days (wonderful days) were compelling enough to make you cry.”

“Yeah. Well then here I come.” I set up an 「Attack Barrier」 and poised my sword.

“Come at me from whichever angle you like.”

Holding the shield, I thrust out the sword while maintaining a low posture. Faithful to my fundamentals, I consciously maintained my body axis and footwork while attacking.

None of my attacks hit. While being bare-handed, she slowed down to a speed that I can follow and dodged while still finding the chance to add an attack in.

I somehow defended against that using the shield and continued to thrust my sword out.

I thought that there was no meaning to remain in this state. Thinking of trying the advice I received, I prepared myself and decided to attack while abandoning my body.

“HaAA” I cleaved with the sword from left to right and left myself open to an easy attack to the center of my body. Even Instructor Broad praised me for thinking of this method to make a gap.

“Because Luciel doesn’t have technical capabilities, it did not appear to be done on purpose.”(Instructor Broad)

Just like planned, a fist came towards me.

【By His hand of holy healing, by the breath of Mother Earth, by my wish using my magical power as sustenance become the breath of an angel, heal, High Heal.】

As light enveloped my body I swung the sword that was on my right down towards the left at full power.

In conclusion it did not hit. Lumina-san who I could visually follow until now vanished.

“Splendid!” The moment the voice entered my ear my consciousness darkened.

” ... up. Wa .. up. I said wake up.” At the next moment I felt an impact on my right cheek.

“It hurtsssss.” I woke up.

When I raised my body both Lucy-san and Kuina-san were there.

“Eh? This is the training ground?”

“That’s right. The morning training has ended so let’s head to the dining hall.”

“Lumina-sama asked me to look after you.”

“Ah~ I was knocked out. Thank you two for waiting.”

I stood up. I secretly casted 「Heal」 on my right cheek as I stood up.

“Anyway Luciel is pretty capable to be knocked out.”

“I was also surprised. I’d never think that Lumina-sama would acknowledge a healer.”

I totally had no idea what they meant. *(TL: If Lumina-sama acknowledges your strength she will knock you out >.< lol)*

“Before that, there is more training later so let’s quickly go get our breakfast.”

“We are the last so let’s hurry.”

“Ah, okay.” I was rushed by the two towards the dining hall.

Thus morning practice had ended.

Chapter 21

Luciel's denied nicknames discovered by the Valkyrie Paladin Corps

Upon reaching the dining hall I queued for my meal in sequence. At that moment I felt an uncomfortable premonition.

“Good morning. I will be moving around a bit more today so please give me slightly more than usual. Also you don't need to prepare a bento for me today.”

“Ara, good morning Luciel-kun. Can you finish such an amount of food?”

“Yeah. I have a feeling that I will not last until lunch if I don't eat this much.” I exchanged an expression usually said by athletes, took my large serving of food and headed towards the two people sitting down.

“Thank you for waiting.” I bowed.

“I've always wondered Luciel, are you fine with eating so much food?” Lucy asked.

“Yeah. Up until two years ago I was skinny and tall but the Master at the Adventurer's Guild told me that eating is the first step to becoming stronger. It is the same situation now. I continued to eat so that I wouldn't die but before I was aware of it I became used to this amount.” *(TL: The master here refers to Cooking bear Grulga-san.)*

“I also have a question. Why do you speak so intimately with the serving lady? She is not an important person just a nobody right?”

“Eh? That is because although there is a need to bear in mind to be courteous to prominent people, there is no reason to look down on others in particular just because they are not as important? Besides I am not great enough to be addressed to with -sama.”

“”So this was what Lumina-sama meant when she said, ignorant.”” The two of them said the exact same thing at the same time. It hurts to be insulted so frankly.

“You are an exorcist and a cleric right?”

“That’s right.”

“A cleric exorcist might be below priests, but you are given the authority and salary on par with the captains of the respective Knight Corps.”

“Heh~. So that’s why the salary was that high.”

“Why are you saying that so carefreely. One day somebody will appear thinking that that attitude is offensive.”

“Hmm. If that time comes I will work hard in the labyrinth and run to the Pope.”

“”Hah~”” Both of them exhaled a grand sigh.

Well actually it should be fine if I can please the maker of the labyrinth (the Pope) whenever it looks like it is going to get troublesome.

Thus, after returning to my room to drink Object X, I waited in front of the sign that warns that entry is off-limits to unauthorized personnel, bowed to the two who came to get me and headed towards the training grounds.

“We shall now resume the morning training. Because Luciel-kun is here today your mission will be VIP escort. Within the time limit if the assault team’s attack hits the VIP then it is the assault team’s win, if the time ends then the defence team wins. Any questions?”

“Yes” I raised my hand.

“Speak”

“I do not think that I would hit so I won’t attack back but could I use magic?”

“Oh right. If we are the escorts then that is within expectations. I’ll allow it. First we will split the defence team and assault team into 5-vs-5. I will be the referee so do not stop until I give the word. From now on think of Luciel-kun as a VIP and escort him.”

『Yes』

It was a simple setup with us walking towards the center from the edge of the training ground.

In this world’s escort missions the escort and the VIP cannot talk with each other.

Of course excluding when there is an emergency situation.

The defense team this time was made up of Lucy-san, Kuina-san, Punea-san who came to pick me up just now, Myra-san with a ponytail exuding a dignified atmosphere, and led by Saran-san wearing an armour with high exposure showing chiselled abs.

After exchanging greetings with them, I found that Myra-san is the type of tight-lipped female warrior, and I don't know why but I felt that Saran-san with her old man manner of speech has a maiden's heart.

Just like that I was escorted by the 5 of them and suddenly the attacks came. To be exact I was attacked. Since when was an arrow released towards me.

I was made to bend downwards. I had no idea what was happening but 【By His hand of holy healing, by the breath of Mother Earth, by my wish using my magical power as sustenance, with me as the center become my shield to protect my surroundings. Area Barrier.】

While I was in a squatting position the assault team was closing in.

“Advance towards that direction.” 3 people were in charge of defending against attacks while another 2 protected me and we successfully reached the wall.

When only 1 person remained defending was “Times up” called out.

We temporarily gathered towards Lumina-san and the review meeting began.

“Firstly congratulations to the defense team. Assault team unfortunately you guys lost. Well then the points for reflection this time are ...”

The main points said by Lumina-san's were as such.

Assault team points to reflect on

- Even though the assault team had 5 people, they were too flustered when they could not defeat the disadvantaged remaining 3 man defense team.
- All members were positioned to be at close range.
- They only attacked me at the very beginning, and later only tried to attack me without truly attacking.

Defense team points to reflect on

– Even though they had recognized that the assault had begun, they only detected the released arrow after it had already reached the target.

– They should discuss about the safe routes in advance and prepare multiple routes.

“Luciel-kun do you have any thoughts?”

“I was surprised by the silent arrow that shot past me without me realising it. After that I was squatting down so I could not identify the number of attackers nor their attacks?”

“I see. We’ll keep that for future reference. If anybody else have an opinion raise your hand, what is it Elizabeth?”

“The reason why the assault team lost this time is exactly as Lumina-sama explained earlier. However the greatest reason why we were defeated was because he was there.” She pointed at me.

Likewise the other 4 people from the assault team nodded.

“I guess you are right. For you all who have been assigned to this squad for just a little less than 3 years, usually you all would not lose. But I must tell you that even though Luciel-kun is 17 years old, he is a freak who is already a level V healer.”

“No way, no matter how talented one is as a healer that is not possible.” said Elizabeth and even the defense team joined in at nodding.

“That is why I said he is a freak.” said Lumina-san directly.

“To call me a freak, Lumina-san has been rude since just now.” I murmured a single sentence.

“Ho. I received a report stating that 10 days after registering with the Healer’s Guild you received combat training, 3 meals a day and lodging at the Adventurer’s Guild in exchange for providing free treatment. Was this a false report?”

” ... No, that is true but that was because I didn’t want to die. It was just that?”

“To continue even though you were beaten up from morning until night, were you not the oddball nicknamed masochistic healer, zombie healer, masochistic zombie healer?”

“I am sorry. I was only called that because I desperately wanted to survive so please pardon me?” I prostrated on the ground. *(TL: He is afraid that the squad will start calling him those nicknames as well.)*

“Well putting aside the masochist nickname, while single-mindedly undergoing combat training, I also heard that every day you not only healed the adventurers, you also continued to heal residents for free, or to be exact at a uniform rate of 1 silver coin.”

“No way.” I heard bewildered voices from all around.

“Well because of that, keep in mind that Luciel-kun’s healer ability is already at the veterans level and act accordingly.”

While in a state of not knowing whether I was being belittled or praised, the assault and defense team members were swapped and the VIP escort mission resumed during the day.

“Okay. Let’s stop here. After lunch we will head towards the forest for exercises, gather here again later.”

『Yes』

Thus while having lunch with everybody from the paladin corps, they pried and dug up my past history in Meratoni.

It might be because we were so noisy, somehow I finished my lunch while receiving glares (looks of jealousy, envy, contempt and desire) from the people all around. *(TL: Remember this is an all girl paladin corp XD)*

“Now then squad, from the nearby forest until the wilderness, we will now begin exterminating monsters. Everybody prepare your horses and assemble.”

『Yes (? ... yes?)』 All eyes were gathered upon me who answered with a question.

“Was there something you didn’t understand?”

“Yes. I mean up until now I have never experienced riding a horse.”

” ... That is truly out of my expectations.” Isn’t that the same expression as when she called me ignorant? Everybody else had the same expression as well.

“There’s no helping it. Luciel-kun go ask the stable management personnel how to ride a horse and practice. Because when we begin the exercise you might be out of our field of sight so you’ll need to be able to take care of yourself.”

“I apologize for the inconvenience.”

“Don’t worry. It’s because I did not consider it as well. You can conduct your horse riding training here. That’s because when our exercise has ended we will return here.”

“Understood. Please don’t worry and set out.”

“Right. We will guide you to the stables. Okay, everybody advance.”

When we arrived at the stables I was introduced to the person responsible for the stables.

“Luciel-kun, this is the person in charge Yanbus. Yanbus, this is the new exorcist who took over the responsibility a few days ago Luciel-kun.” *(TL: I’m beginning to wonder if the author has a very bad sense of naming or I just can’t translate the names properly.)*

“Nice to meet you I am Luciel. Please give me guidance because I have not ridden nor touched a horse before (During the journey Bazzan-san and co. took care of the horses so I didn’t have the chance). I’ll be in your care.”

“Luciel-sama that makes me fearful so please raise your head. I am Yanbus and have been assigned to manage this place.”

“Well then Yanbus, I will leave Luciel-kun to you?”

“Yes madam.”

“Luciel-kun, work hard.”

After saying just that she gallantly hopped on to the horse beside her and galloped away.

“That looks super cool. Well then best regards Yanbus-san.”

“Yes.”

Thus I will ride a horse for the first time in my life.

Chapter 22

First experience of horse riding, when anxious, train

2 people and a horse arrived at the training ground with the owner absent. *(TL: Owner/lord referring to Lumina)*

Well it was me.

“Anyway, Yanbus-san is work good for you here?”

“Yes. The stables I am managing houses the horses ridden by the Valkyrie Paladin Corps as well as the horses in charge of pulling carriages to receive VIP guests, so now the stable houses not only a few horses.”

“I see. Then could you introduce this horse to me.”

“Yeah. This horse is called Fornoir.”

Fornoir sounded like the name of a cake, it gave a feeling that it means a dark forest. *(TL: He is totally referring to black forest noir cakes called Forêt-Noire.)*

“Fornoir, nice to meet you I am Luciel. I have not ridden on a horse before so please give me guidance.” I lowered my head and was surprised by “Luciel-sama what are you doing!”.

“Eh? Aren’t horses smart and can understand what people say?”

“That is true but suddenly lowering your head makes it look like you are asking it to make you it’s servant.”

” ... Seriously?”

“I don’t know for sure but that was how it looked like. This guy is exceptionally smart so it should be okay but do be careful.”

“I’m sorry. Thank you for the advice.”

Thus I had already made a mistake at the very first step so I was determined to absolutely listen to everything Yanbus-san says as I received my instructions.

“First face forward and stand beside it while calling the horse and touching it gently. If you mount it without warning the horse will be frightened.”

“Yes.” As I was told I stood at its side facing forward and touched its flank.

“It’s warm.”

“Yes. They are warmer than people. Although it is currently wearing a saddle, please press onto its back to signal it that you are going to mount it.”

“Yes.” I tried pressing 『Gutsu Gutsu』. But there wasn’t any reaction.

“Okay. It doesn’t seem like it dislikes it so you are fine. Please mount it.”

“Eh already?”

“Yes now, I believe you’ve prepared yourself?”

“Understood.” I kicked the ground and sat on the saddle.

“Okay. That’s good. Please maintain your vertical posture with your upper body raised and your legs apart.”

“Ye ... yes. Erm Yanbus isn’t this is quite high up?”

“Initially anybody who saddles up for the first time thinks so as well, it’s going to be fine. You will get used to it eventually.”

“Are there no stirrups?”

“What are stirrups?”

“A place to place your feet or a support tool that gives a foothold?”

“Erm~ I have never heard of it. Where is this local specialty from?”

“Ah ~ never mind, I heard about it a long time ago so I only tried asking. It doesn’t matter.”

“I’m sorry that I can’t help. Once you are done, try to actually steer. Please sandwich the horse between your knees and make sure that your axis doesn’t shift. It will be tough on the sides of the horse as well if your axis shifts.”

At that moment, I recalled something from my previous life. Thinking of the knee grip I used when I once rode on a motorcycle for fun, I maintained my posture. However that height was still scary. It made the area around the groin felt chilly.

“The cue to advance is by shaking the reins, pulling on the reins is the cue to stop. When turning pull the reins towards the direction you wish to turn to.”

“Understood.”

I lightly shook the reins. As a result Fornoir began to lightly trot.

“Okay. That’s good. Please do a lap around the perimeter here with that pose.”

“Here I go.”

『Pakopakopako』 With a pleasant rhythm, Fornoir trotted forward and reached the end in no time at all. I pulled slightly using my right hand to prompt it to turn and it turned for me.

“Thanks” I thanked it, we once again reached the end and turned, after we moved to the side of Yanbus-san, I slowly used both hands to pull the reins and it stopped for me.

“Okay. Wonderful. Makes me think that this is not your first time.”

“No, it is because Fornoir is smart. Also, it feels like my butt and knees will feel terrible if I ride for too long.”

“That will happen. Not only will the skin on your butt get irritated, you will also need to keep flexing the muscles on your knees that you rarely use. Well for a healer-sama like you there would be no problems?”

Now that he mentioned it. Just being able to use 「Heal」 is a considerable cheat.

“Could I continue for a bit more?”

“Yes. Fornoir have not ran enough as well. However, please do not raise your speed unreasonably.”

“Okay. Understood.”

Just like that with multiple breaks interposed between horse riding, without noticing quite some time had passed and the Valkyrie Paladin Corps returned.

“Even though you are a beginner you are already looking pretty good.” Lumina-san called out.

“Is that so? That makes me happy but it is because this child here is smart. I am sure that if it was an unruly horse the moment I jumped on its back I would be shaken off.”

“Kukuku. I see. Training ends here today. I look forward to you joining our training next week.”

“Ah, yes. Likewise I look forward to it as well.”

Just like that training with the Valkyrie Paladin Corps and my first horse riding experience ended.

I am a guy who can read the atmosphere ... I think. Which is why during dinner time, I had dinner at a different time from everyone else from the Valkyrie Paladin Corps.

Well it was for official business, but it seems like I didn't train at all today. Upon using appraisal, the skill proficiency for horse riding was definitely there but pretty much everything else didn't grow at all.

“I had not thought that it would stop growing. I feel extremely uneasy. No, maybe this is how a normal life is?”

I had such a thought but, “If I get attacked by people at the level of the Valkyrie Paladin Corps I will definitely die, I need to work harder after all. Whenever one feels anxious, train.”

Thus I went and returned from the tenth floor, had my dinner and slept.

From the next day I started capturing the labyrinth again.

“There were traps from the sixth floor onwards so there should be traps from the 16th floor onwards as well.”

After casting 「Aura Coat」 and 「Area Barrier」 just in case, I searched for traps while drawing the map and destroying monsters.

“Just because I don't have a rucksack now, movement has become abnormally easy, I've got to thank the Pope for this.”

In truth, to pick up items with the magic bag, I don't necessarily need to use my hands to touch it, I found that even stepping on the item was enough.

“If we had this on Earth then everybody could become magicians.”

While such a corny thought floated in my head, I discovered a trap and stepped warily. 『Biiiii』 An alarm sounded and monsters surged towards me from all around.

“I see. So there are these kinds of traps as well.” I nodded while casting purification magic to crush the monsters from one direction and escaped from that gap.

And then I defeated the approaching monsters individually using purification magic and my sword.

I used this combat method because during this morning in the dining hall Elizabeth-san passed a message from Lumina-san advising me that if I attempted things that I cannot accomplish it will become a strange habit so it is better to stop.

Elizabeth-san and Lipnea-san both use dual-swords so I studied under them.

“This may be an order from Lumina-sama but you still owe me one.”

I lowered my head while praying that there was no interest rate for the favour I owe.

With a neat slash the undead monsters immediately disappeared. Although it is crude but this should be a stepping stone in preparation for the next boss battle. While I pondered, I finished mapping the 16th floor and stopped to eat my lunch.

While having my bento I considered “I wonder just how many monsters can Object X repel.”

As I contemplated, once I completely explored the 17th floor I once again returned to the 10th floor boss room and annihilated the monsters there. Every time I enter via the boss room I will annihilate them, every time I leave via the boss room I will annihilate them as well. So I left via the boss room, annihilated the monsters and left the labyrinth.

The next day, I returned after exploring the 18th and 19th floor. And the following day I finished exploring the 20th floor.

“So the boss room is here. Yeap. It gives off a terribly bad feeling.” (*TL: Spider senses are tingling.*)

Without directly bursting into the room, I returned from the labyrinth.

And then I directly asked Katria-san who was at the shop “Are the main boss rooms hierarchical in nature? What emerges from the one at the 20th floor?”

“I have no idea. I have never entered the labyrinth before. But, just maybe, like before it might be a person related to the Healer’s Guild who lost their lives in this labyrinth.”

She made a sorrowful face at that moment. If this was an act it is way too amazing. If she was born in a different world, with her youthful look and beautiful charm she could have lived a comfortable life as an actress.

“I see. Thank you for your valuable opinion. Are there any important items that I require?”

“If you intend to go I can’t stop you. But I advice that you don’t go. There’s no telling what kind of traps are there.”

“I won’t go there yet. It won’t do if I don’t first hone my foundation more.”

“I see. Well this does not only pertain to this labyrinth, but potions that recover magical power and physical power are indispensable. Also, connecting the stories I’ve heard about the other labyrinths, survival rates increases if you bring food along with you.”

So these were hints for capturing labyrinths. Understood.

“If that’s the case please show me the type of potions with high recovery values.”

I purchased the potions and for the next two days, I travelled back and forth from the 10th floor boss room and defeated monsters using magic and sword with breaks sandwiched in between. I worked to train my mental spirit such that I do not panic when faced with one-vs-many situations.

And then my second Valkyrie Paladin Corps training began.

Chapter 23

The provisional enlistment of Luciel into the Valkyrie Paladin Corps?

On-the-job training for dual swords

I woke up earlier than usual, prepared such that I could leave at a moment's notice, and absentmindedly performed magic training while I envisioned how dual sword technique would look like.

To me dual swords was a technique that could defeat opponents using a large variety of moves and leaves them to your mercy. There should be various other interpretations but my image of it was like that.

A long time ago I once tried to hold a large sword called a Greatsword using only one hand but I wasn't able to, then Grulga-san saw me and said "Drink this". Instead of ale he made me drink Object X. Now that I think about it, since then my Object X was no longer diluted but was instead served to me in raw undiluted form.

(※Note: Due to Grulga-san's kindness, he never had Luciel drink Object X undiluted because he feared even Luciel would faint and lose all his memory. However Luciel unexpectedly finished drinking that so his growth plans were modified.)

While I reminisced, 『Kon kon kon』 I heard the sound of knocking.

"Yes. Who is it?"

"I am Elizabeth from the Valkyrie Paladin Corps. I came to invite Luciel-san." (*TL: Elizabeth spoke in keigo = honorific speech in Japanese used to show respect/ used by nobles in social settings*)

"I'll be there immediately." Was Elizabeth an aristocrat? I prepared myself while I thought about that, finished drinking that and casted purification magic before turning the doorknob.

“Thank you very much Elizabeth-san. Thank you for the trouble of coming here.” (TL: *Luciel replied using honorific speech as well*)

“It doesn’t matter. Today I will thoroughly carve the techniques to utilize dual swords into your body so prepare yourself.”

” ... Did something greatly anger you?”

“You are imagining it. Let’s go.”

“Understood.”

She emitted an aura that barred any further prying so we began walking towards the Valkyrie Paladin Corp’s training grounds.

Similar to last week ranks were already neatly formed and everyone from the Valkyrie Paladin Corps were awaiting my arrival.

“Good morning Luciel-kun, good work Elizabeth.”

Elizabeth-san first bowed before she went back into the column.

“Good morning. I will be in your care for today as well.”

I expressed my greetings and was going to proceed to the back but was stopped.

“Ah, Luciel-kun, hold on to this.”

Lumina-san stretched out her hand and on it was a single card extended towards me. I immediately accepted the card.

“Erm what is this?”

“That card represents that you are related to the Valkyrie Paladin Corps. Don’t worry and take it. With that you can enter any area restricted for paladins only without punishment.”

“No, that’s not the issue. The problem is why was I, a guy, even though it is provisional, issued a squad member certificate to the Valkyrie Paladin Corps.”

“I consulted a certain someone, who thought that it would be interesting, so permission was received from above. That’s all.”

“To just say it so simply ...”

“If you are a guy then don’t sweat the minor details. If not you’ll go bald in the future. Okay, warm-ups.”

『Kusu kusu kusu』 Elegant laughter awfully remained in my ears but as soon as I looked back, 『Yes』 everybody chased after Lumina-san who had began running and I followed behind.

“That was way too unsatisfactory an explanation~”

I tried my best to chase after their backs.

“Ha ha ha” I adjusted my breathing, exhaling and inhaling deeply.

“You’ve become faster compared to last week.”

“Even so I was still 7 laps behind you all.”

“Considering you are a healer that is quite fast?”

“Why did you end that with a question?”

“Well then. Squad today, excluding Elizabeth and Lipnea, form pairs and battle 1-vs-1, after that pair up with your opponent and conduct a playoff.” *(TL: Playoff like those in team sports games like basketball, winner gains a point loser loses a point total up the points for ranking.)*

『Yes』

“First Elizabeth and Lipnea do a mock battle as fellow dual sword users. After that have a mock battle with Luciel-kun. However, severing strikes and sneak attacks are prohibited.”

“”Yes.””

“Now split up and begin training.”

Thus I saw for the first time the mock battles by the Valkyrie Paladin Corps.

With a low posture like sliding forward, Lipnea-san approached Elizabeth-san looking as if she would slip past Elizabeth-san’s right, Lipnea-san used the sword on her left hand to slash at Elizabeth-san’s foot.

While composedly parrying with her own left sword, Elizabeth-san rotated using her left foot and slashed at Lipnea-san’s back using her right sword.

Once again as if reading the move, Lipnea-san lifted and rotated her body, using the momentum from parrying the sword blow she gained distance from Elizabeth-san.

Continuous attacks were sent out at speeds that would be missed if you blinked together with correspondingly overwhelming speed of approach. However the other side also attacked at a similar pace so it was extremely hard to reach a conclusion.

Half way through the dance-like attack and defense, Elizabeth-san who stopped a dual sword simultaneous strike concluded the fight with the sword on her right hand resting at a horizontal position against Lipnea-san's neck.

Without a doubt the reason why Lipnea-san lost this time was because she attempted a dual sword simultaneous strike.

“What do you think?”

“They were both fast, accurately attacked the opponent's weak spots and looks like they moved while considering multiple hands and patterns in advance.”

“What about regarding dual swords?”

“Yes. There are more gaps that I imagined. To maintain continuous attacks, movement is limited and attacks can't be paused. Similarly you can't let your attacks be stopped as well, there are many existing theories to it.”

“Good. Looks like you paid attention. Also, in other cases feints are convenient but when handling dual swords it would shake the body's axis so attacks would lack that final decisive push. Well then you have recognized the drawbacks so next will be Luciel-kun's turn.”

“Yes. I will give it a go.”

First was my battle with Lipnea-san.

Along with the signal to start I invoked magic that increased physical defense, held my shield in front and waited for attacks to come.

Bathed in continuous attacks from above center below left and right, I became like a turtle but somehow could tolerate the attacks.

Comparing with Broad-san, the speed of was not as fast so there wasn't that much of an oppressive feeling so I could endure it.

I repeatedly looked for an opportunity to match my attack with a gap. I thrust my shield outwards to stop her speed and swung my sword downwards.

At the next moment, I was looking towards the sky with an impact against my chin and couldn't muster energy into my foot.

“Are you okay?”

“Yes. I am still conscious. Before that what happened at that last moment? The moment I believed I would win I ended up in this pitiful state so I would like an explanation.”

“After you spectacularly defended, at the moment you swung your sword down Lipnea somersaulted backwards and kicked out as she did so which caught your chin. After that your head was swaying about and you couldn’t stand up.”

“I see.” I cast 「Heal」 on my head, returning strength to my legs and I called out “Another match please.”

If Lipnea-san is a continuous attack type, Elizabeth-san is a counter type. She had a wealth of variations, diverting my attacks with a single hand, stopping them with both hands, even sometimes kicking when there was a gap, I couldn’t attack carelessly.

I pretended to attack with a sword but instead thrust out with my shield but “That is a bad move.” The moment I heard Elizabeth-san murmur, Elizabeth-san in front of me disappeared, and I was kicked and collapsed.

And then she slowly thrust a sword onto my back. Thus my second battle ended.

“What was that just now? Why did Elizabeth-san disappear?”

“It is Elizabeth’s magic. Elizabeth explain it yourself.”

“Yes. I am actually a holder of double light and water attributes. Thanks to that I can create illusions. That is why I aimed for the moment a gap appears when you get close enough to me.”

“That was insightful.” I honestly lowered my head.

Thus while the 3 of us battled and Lumina-san gave advice, the morning practice ended.

Chapter 24

The boss battle at the 20th floor, before that ...

As usual after waking up I did some stretches. “Nothing feels sore.” I felt relieved and began preparing for the morning.

Yesterday, I began getting accustomed to training with the Valkyrie Paladin Corps and for the training exercise I had to ride on a horse.

However. “I am sorry. Fornoir is feeling slightly under the weather so I prepared another horse for you.”

Yanbus-san brought over a chestnut horse that was slightly larger than Fornoir.

“It’s large.”

“Yes. This one here has a slightly rougher temper but due to that it should not succumb to training exercises or monsters.”

“It does look strong.”

Just like how I was taught previously, I stood at the side of the horse facing forward, moved slowly and touched the horse’s flank, gave the riding signal and sat on the saddle.

The next moment, it’s back legs suddenly reared up. I was caught unaware and was tossed off, landing on my back hard.

Subsequently, I tried multiple times but the same situation repeated itself. Furthermore, even on other horses I was immediately thrown off. Dazed, I challenged multiple times but still could not successfully saddle a horse.

Of course, I could not go for the exercise and until the Valkyrie Paladin Corps returned, I had already fallen off dozens of times and hurt all over but I felt that I was being looked down upon by the horses so I didn’t cast recovery magic on myself.

Seeing me with wounds all over my body, Lumina-san placed her hand on my shoulder and muttered “For the time being you will have horse riding training.”

Just like that my second training with the Valkyrie Paladin Corps ended.

I finished my breakfast, collected my bento and headed towards the labyrinth.

“Let’s vent all of yesterday’s anger.”

I trained multiple times at the 10th floor boss room using purification magic, sword and shield style and, sword and short spear style.

Currently in my magic bag, I had 3 holy silver daggers.

These cost an expensive 75,000P each, I had to use all my P to get them but, just by thinking [Holy silver dagger to left hand], it will really appear on my left hand.

With almost no time lag, I believe that it will display tremendous effect when aimed at when a chasing opponent is caught off guard.

However, the current me still couldn’t perform such an act so I trained there.

While eating my bento, the questions I had in my head spilled out from my mouth.

“Why can’t I achieve doing that?”

In order to examine that question, I continued swinging my sword and spear and conducting my magic training.

However I had no idea since when but monsters stopped appearing.

“Was there such a mechanism? Could I continue diving if I cast 「Aura Coat」 ?”

Thus for 4 days I experimented to find my personal fighting style.

And so the days passed by with training. Finally, in front of the 20th floor boss room I did my final preparations.

“Weapons, good. Armour, good. Recovery items, good. Cast magic, good. Advanced dose of Object X, good.”

Today, I will clear the 20th floor.

Even without being able to use magic on the 10th floor boss room, I am now able to win without taking any damage.

“Well then, God, Buddha and ancestors, please lend me your strength. Also I humbly wish that magic can be used.”

I offered my final prayers and opened the 20th floor boss room.

Similar to the 10th floor, the sound from a rusted door rang out and I was met with a dim atmosphere.

“This completely makes one feel that a boss is here. Lately the boss room I go to has always been bright so I’ve forgotten.”

When the door closed, after the room brightened, 2 skeleton knights wearing ominous equipment and a Wight appeared. Going by the skeletons I’ve met until now, I felt that these fellows were Specter Knights. I had a bad feeling.

I immediately chanted 【By the hand of holy healing, by the breath of Mother Earth, I wish for no harm onto my body and myself, return the unclean existence to its original path. Purification.】

Purification magic swallowed the 3 of them up and they disappeared, such a thing did not happen.

“There was no way right~.”

『Gugyoogyoogugoo』

From the screams, I understood that they were suffering.

However it did not reach to the point of defeating them.

I once again chanted purification magic.

However, the Specter Knights didn’t sit there like it was nothing, they faced their shields forward and charged towards me.

The magic struck them and the charging speed dropped but they did not stop.

I readied my sword and shield, avoiding the 2 charging bodies.

As I did that 3 black fire spears flew towards me at the same time.

“Namusan (*TL: MC is praying here.*)” I chose the route of receiving one of the spears with my shield. The image of the shield dissolving in one go flashed before my eyes

and I discarded the shield before equipping a new one while chanting purification magic and casting it towards my back.

The approaching 2 Specter Knights who reached a distance of about 3 meters from me were hit by purification magic for the third time.

Upon contact, maybe because of the close distance or maybe because it was the third time, the Specter Knights stopped.

I did not stop there. I approached the Specter Knights which stood still without raising their shield, slashed at one of them with my sword, discarded the sword and retrieved a dagger, channelled magic into it and threw the dagger towards the other Specter Knight.

However, monsters are not so easy to that extent.

『Gaann』 It repelled my dagger using it's shield.

I created some distance for now and pondered on how to defeat the remaining 2 monsters while casting purification magic.

Although I've defeated one, due to that the remaining Specter Knight set up to so as to defend the Wight. The Wight was stronger than I expected and it released black fire arrows towards me.

The problem is my shield. The shield cannot defend against that black magic.

The shield I used to block the magic attack earlier now had a hole in the center, with flames burning within it.

I might even get game over with a single blow if I get hit by that.

The remaining Specter Knight came slashing. Although I somehow blocked it with my sword, I was still slightly cut.

“If that's the case, I have no choice but to do it.”

At the same time the Wight released fire magic, I blocked it with a shield like before, tossed it aside and somehow closed the distance to the Specter Knight and cast purification magic at close range.

However, it didn't stop and slashed downwards with its sword. Somehow I dodged it by flying to my side. In desperation, I pulled out a dagger, channelled magic into it and threw it towards the Specter Knight and it spectacularly pierced in between the eyebrows.

“Yes!!” I wanted to praise myself for the toss that saved the day, but it had to wait until I defeated the remaining Wight. The moment I looked away, the Specter Knight glowed with a red light and 『Gyoroo』 its eyes looked towards my direction.

『Nuriaaaaaa』 While feeling fearful I fired myself up, beheading it with the sword held in my right hand. But, I was left with an unwanted souvenir.

『Guuuuuuu』 Heal couldn't remove the burning-like pain. Perhaps, I casted purification instead and the pain subsided.

A ball of perspiration fell from my forehead.

“Haa Haa, that was a curse? Even for an illusion that's too dangerous. But only you are left. Prepare yourself.”

I used 「Magic Barrier」 and 「Aura Coat」 and decided to defeat the Wight by raising my vigilance to the highest level.

The Wight released multiple magic at once.

The third shield became useless as well but because it was now 1-vs-1. I spotted an opening and used purification magic while taking out my bow to hinder with its casting.

“No way.” The Wight cast back magic on itself, enveloping itself with black light.

“Isn't that clearly a black version of magic barrier. ... If I can't defeat it with physical attacks I will defeat it with magic, if I can't defeat it with magic I will defeat it with physical attacks.”

Letting loose an arrow, the moment the Wight's magic paused I approached it and cast purification magic and 「Area Heal」 .

Surprised that instead of only a portion of its body, its whole body was covered by 「Area Heal」 , the Wight groaned and stopped. At that point I threw the third dagger, and additionally also threw the spear at its torso which penetrated it, the Wight tumbled backwards and disappeared.

“Ha~. It's over. By the way, it's attack method was different from the previous Wight and I felt that it was stronger. Anyway it is a good thing it wasn't the first time I seen one. The Specter Knights were strong as well.”

I picked up the large Wight magic stone, the smaller 2 magic stones, but larger and darker in colour than the ones from the undead until now, from the Specter Knights,

applied purification magic to the dropped weapons, armour and accessories and stored them in my magic bag.

At that moment. 『Gogogogooo』 A rumbling sound resounded and a door appeared. I opened that door and stairs leading downwards appeared.

“As expected. But I wonder until where does this lead to? To be honest it will be tough to proceed any more. Well for now it is bento time.”

After the impoverished me ate the bento, I made an effort to recover physical strength and magical power by meditating.

“I’ll take a peek at what’s below, battle the Specter Knights and return. Okay, let’s do that.”

I descended down to the 21st floor and was momentarily stunned. The level was way too different.

Firstly, the normal walking zombies changed into ghouls which charged towards me when they saw me.

Casting purification magic dissolved them and made them disappear but that was too scary. I looked at the orange coloured walls and ascended the stairs. Returning to the boss room, I defeated the single Specter Knight.

“It doesn’t drop any items huh. Also it died with just 1 purification magic. I wonder why?”

I battled multiple times, while feeling that it really hurts when I get slashed, I declared that I will one day defeat the Specter Knight without relying on magic. I ascended the stairs, realizing that I had defeated the 20th floor boss and escaped from the labyrinth.

This was just a day before I reached a month since I came to the Healer’s Guild headquarters.

Chapter 25

The second negotiation with the Pope (Business Negotiation)

As usual after exiting from the labyrinth I asked Katria-san to purchase my magic stones.

“I will leave the calculations to you.”

“Yes~. Lately thanks to Luciel-kun’s hard work our debt has decreased.”

“Debt?”

“Fufufu? Did you perhaps enter the 20th floor main room?”

“Yes. I went to the 20th floor boss room. I fought with a Wight and armoured Skeleton Knights.”

“Then firstly the points total is 215,342P. That’s quite some earnings.”

“Thank you. It looks like I would once again buy various items.”

“I’m happy to hear that.”

“Well then it was tiring today so please excuse me.” *(TL: Lol he tried ... he really tried ... haha now I feel sad for him)*

“Fufufu, that’s a funny joke but I don’t particularly like such jokes.”

” ... Ha, hahaha. Is that so.”

“Yes. Shall we go?”

And just like that I was dragged by Katria-san to the Pope’s room.

“Katria, and if I remember correctly, Luciel. Thank you for coming. So what is the urgent matter this time?”

“Yes! Exorcist-dono once again advanced his capture of the labyrinth and returned today after emerging victorious from the battle with a Wight and Skeleton Knights in the 20th floor main room.”

“Ho. Luciel, so the 20th floor was cleared smoothly?”

“Yes.”

“Luciel is unexpectedly strong.”

It sounded like she was saying (I am interested in you)?

“That is not the case. It was a tough battle and I appeared victorious just because my luck was good this time. If I didn’t have this magic bag you gave me the other time I would have definitely suffered heavy wounds or if I did poorly, I might even have died.”

“I see. I’m glad that I could be slightly of use to you.”

“Yes. There is no doubt that only with the assistance of your item did I turn the battle around.”

“Kukuku. Even though you achieved such a distinguished feat within such a short duration, you are an interesting guy to earnestly think and say that it was thanks to me.”

“Thank you very much.”

“Fumu. Well then please show me the items you retrieved this time.”

“Yes! This time the Wight used double elements, fire and holy. *(TL: Wait Holy element? What? Typo?)* Paired together with the Wight to defend it were 2 Skeleton Knights ... that looked like they were possessed so I named them Specter Knights. And these are the dropped items.”

The Wight left behind it’s robe and 2 bracelets, the Specter Knights left behind their sword, shield and equipped armour. The attendants took the items but did I imagine the slightly upset look on Katria-san?

The Pope retrieved the items one by one, slowly examining them before finally speaking.

“As expected, these too ... Luciel, thank you for the trouble you’ve taken. The items you retrieved previously and this time as well from the defeated Wights used to be in the possession of former bishops and cardinals. These 2 people have been missing for more than 10 years.”

“Does this mean they passed away in the labyrinth and after becoming undead they bore their fangs towards the Healer’s Guild headquarters?”

“Fumu. To be accurate, the Saint Schull Allied Nations and Holy city’s Saint Schull Church does not encompass the whole Healer’s Guild.” *(TL: In other words the Healer’s Guild is not only made up of people from the Allied Nations and Holy City’s Saint Schull church.)*

“You mean ...”

“Ah, slightly more than 50 years has passed since the labyrinth-fication of the underground began. Nobody has any idea why the labyrinth appeared. In the past, this place was unimaginably lively. Numerous priest knights and paladins had friendly competitions here.”

Certainly, my room is meant for 2 but I am living there alone. I see. By interweaving both true and false information together and providing weapons, they raised the people’s motivation to capture the labyrinth. *(TL: I think that the MC believes that the fact that more people used to live here is true but other points raised by the Pope is propaganda or he thinks that the Pope is lying to conceal the fact that the Wights originated from the Healer’s Guild.)*

“However, as a response to the sudden labyrinth-fication, the church dispatched many individuals to seal the labyrinth and avoided the situation where the surface gets flooded with monsters.”

“The labyrinth can be sealed?”

“It can be done. If impurity-expelling magic is used. Large amounts of pure Holy attribute magical power is required. Well at that time a perfect seal was not achieved.”

“I see. Are there any other methods to seal the labyrinth?”

“Yes. If the miasma-releasing labyrinth core is destroyed, the labyrinth’s activity would cease and no longer expand in size. Sealing the labyrinth then would cause the impurities to dissipate and the labyrinth to disappear.”

“You wish to make the labyrinth disappear?”

“It is troublesome to have a labyrinth in the church. A labyrinth is said to be born at a place which accumulates magical power and merges miasma with people’s greed. Do you not understand the negative implications of having such a place within the church?”

“Yes. That is certainly true.”

“Returning to the topic, at that time the people who dove into the labyrinth were priest knights and paladins. They proceeded at a surprising pace. Somewhere along the lines of reaching the 7th floor from the 5th floor in 1 day. However, due to the foul odour and miasma, the advancing pace gradually dropped.”

But I could advance just fine? Doesn't this mean she is indirectly stating that I am a weirdo?

“Even so as the elites of the church, the priest knights and paladins forged onwards for the church. However, they collapsed due to disease from the thickening miasma, from the stronger enemies ... enemies that could use mental magic appeared and magic aimed at those enemies ended up hitting fellow teammates ...”

An undead that can use such type of magic, isn't that a Wraith? More pressingly, Wraiths can appear as well? That's rough.

“The unreasonable labyrinth capture was cursed and many were sacrificed. As a result, the labyrinth was sealed to prevent monsters from escaping but one day zombies began crawling out so construction works to expand the building began.”

“So the reason why now healers with low physical capabilities are chosen as exorcists is ...” (Luciel)

“These several decades it is hard to find people born with the JOB of priest knights and paladins, and even if they are born many do not affiliate themselves with the church. The numbers now are 20% compared to the past. To be frank we have no personnel that can repeatedly enter the labyrinth.”

“Is that why healers capable of using purification magic were pulled in to cull the monsters?”

“That's right. Now we aim to make it such that zombies don't escape from the labyrinth. That has become the top priority.”

Eh? That means instead of capturing the labyrinth, she is hinting to me to just patrol the upper floors? Good weapons and items would drop more easily?

“I see. How far did the previous labyrinth capture reach? And it would be good if they found out, how deep does the labyrinth continue until? Receiving some information would help?”

“What I heard from that time was that they defeated the 40th floor boss. In that fight 2 commanders died so the labyrinth capture was abandoned.”

“By the way how do those people compare to the current paladins.”

“They were stronger. Then, it was a time of intense war and battles compared to now. They were the elites that supported that time but ...”

“Is that so.”

Isn't this a totally impossible game ...

“I apologize knowing that this is rude, but can't you form a magical pledge with the adventurers to crush the labyrinth and capture the labyrinth that way?”

“Umu. There was such a suggestion at that time as well. However, adventurers could not enter the labyrinth. This was only understood later but, only individuals with aptitude to light and holy attribute magic such as priests, priestess, heroes, sages, paladins, priest knights and dragon knights could enter.”

“Erm~, even a hero party could not clear the labyrinth?”

“Umu. Just before they entered the labyrinth, the demon race begin advancing at that bad timing so the labyrinth capture didn't happen.

Sadly, after defeating the demon lord the hero lost his power and was no longer capable of fighting.”

... That is way too coincidental.

“Looking back now 50 years is a long time ago.”

“I see ... Why did the people who became the Wights enter the labyrinth several decades ago?”

“They had the ability to. They were wasteful with money as can be seen from the equipments and above that their greed was strong. The majority entered the labyrinth aiming to get rich quick. Well they might even aimed to just recover a small sum of money.”

“I see.”

“Umu. That is all I know regarding the labyrinth. Right, just now you mentioned that you struggled in battle, if I increased the number of people is it possible to capture the labyrinth from now on?”

“It is possible. But ... only if they can tolerate the stench like me and have mental, charm and illusion resistances.”

” ... Just don't overdo it. *(TL: The Pope just gave up cause there's no one who can fit that criteria)* Could I entrust you to capture the labyrinth gradually by yourself?”

“Yes. Only if it is little-by-little.”

“Fumu. Is there anything you desire?”

“Your highness, I might need anti-undead weapons, armours or items that can increase my survivability.”

“Understood. I will prepare them and let you choose at your discretion.” Yes, successful!

“Thank you. Also, previously have there been reports of monsters apart from the undead appearing in the labyrinth?”

Only this would pose a problem. If purification magic is rendered ineffective at the lower floors then it would be game over.

“No, there wasn’t any. Were there any reasons to suspect that?”

The Pope looked anxious. I was just being cautious for the time being.

“No, this time I could not have defeated the Specter Knights and Wight without purification magic, so if in the future monsters apart from the undead appear, fundamentally I would not be able to continue my labyrinth capture ... ”

“Fumu. In the past the priests all had high levels but were still defeated.”

That’s right. I was still only at level 1.

“There’s no knowing what will appear. I do not expect too much from the labyrinth capture so I’ll be glad if you just attempt to.”

“Understood.”

“Well then please continue your unfinished labyrinth capture. That’s right. If your healer rank rises above VI, let me know because I can promote you. If it’s for Luciel I’ll make time for it.”

“Promotion?”

“Umu. Originally JOB levels are slowly refined over long years. And when JOB levels rise above VI promotion becomes possible. If one reaches the highest level X the JOB selection choices changes but I do not know of anybody who only got promoted at such a high level.”

“Can I promote infinitely as long as I increase my JOB level?”

“That is impossible. There are no records of similar cases written in ancient literature. In addition, only people holding the JOB of king, emperor and priestess can promote others.”

“Thank you for the information. In relation to this, I’ve heard that there are multi-jobs as well? Are those different?”

“Multi-job refers to those who had the bad luck of holding 2 jobs. I heard that it is hard to raise their JOB levels and they have delayed growth.”

“Are there no studies done on that?”

“Yes. It is rare after all. It is believed that those holding on to multi-job are given a trial by the gods.”

“I see.”

“Well that’s all. Thank you for your hardship today. I will entrust the items that might come in handy in the labyrinth capture with Katria. Katria stay behind. Oi, help me send Luciel.”

“Yes. I will do so.” (Random attendant)

“Thank you for your precious time during your busy schedule today.”

“Umu. I look forward to Luciel’s activities from now on.”

“My pleasure.”

Thus my second audience (business negotiation) with the Pope ended.

Chapter 26

New nickname obtained “Deviant Saint”

After I was brought to an area I was familiar with by the Pope’s attendant, I expressed my thanks and walked towards the direction of the dining hall.

“There’s quite a lot of people here.” As I queued, which brought up memories of school cafeterias, somebody called out to me.

“Luciel-kun, after getting your food come sit over here.”

Before turning around, just by listening to the voice I immediately knew who it was.

“Lumina-sama thank you for your hard work. Thank you for inviting me over.”

I turned around and briefly answered with a greeting.

“Umu.”

The people who saw that spectacle didn’t think too well of that. Although they did not come pick a fight, bathed in the persistent gazes, I felt depressed from the constant stares.

“Good evening. Please give me a large serving today as well. Ah, also today’s bento was delicious.”

“Ara Luciel-kun thank you. Well then I’ll give you an even larger serving.”

After saying that she personally delivered the meal, which was easily over 5 times more than the other people queuing up, a number of people did a double take when they saw it and looked like they wanted to laugh, but the gazes further accumulated so I promptly moved.

“It’s rare that all of you are gathered together.”

“Yeah. The truth is there are currently squabbles at the international borders between Elimashia Empire, Rubruk Kingdom and the Saint Schull Allied Nations. Unfortunately, my Valkyrie Paladin Corps and the Priest Knight Corps were assigned to patrol the periphery.”

“That means?”

“Umu. I’m sorry but from tomorrow onward the trainings will stop for some time. Of course, I don’t mind if you enter the training grounds to train your horsemanship ... to practice riding a horse.” *(TL: Lol he is so bad at it that she can’t even say that it is horsemanship.)*

Let me restate it? Lumina-san is occasionally rude. Although I wanted to say that, but I couldn’t.

“Understood. I understand that you all are strong but please take care to not get wounded and return safely.”

“Well, when we are not around I think that the person most troubled would be Luciel.”

Maruruka-san said something ominous.

” ... ?”

“That’s right. You are always together with us so don’t you think that you are not really held in good terms by others?”

Gannett-san further added on.

“Well true ... ”

Since coming to the church headquarters, I have not spoken to any guys apart from Jordo-san, Granhart-san and Yanbus-san.

“You are always covered by bloodthirst.”

Beatrice-san, that is too scary.

“Rest in peace.”

Cathy-san, that is too far a leap.

“No no, bloodthirst have not been sent my way. And I’m not going to die.”

『Haa~』

Eh? Why is everybody sighing so deeply?

“It would be best if you undergo special training to be slightly better at reading the signs.”

Lipnea-san gave me an advice.

” ... Well, it is just like Luciel-san after all, to be dense.”

Elizabeth is being insensitive? A follow-up advice to me?

“If you die I will pray for you.”

Eh? Why are you so certain that I will die? Kuina-san?

“I will avenge you.”

Myra-san. That’s dangerous. Eh? Or is the situation really that bad? Instead for getting revenge for me, can’t you defend me?

“Luciel, try your best to escape.”

Lucy-san took a fighting pose.

“Where do you intend to run away to?”

Where can I escape to?

“That’s right~ If you enter the labyrinth wouldn’t it be fine since they can’t go in?”

Lucy-san, wouldn’t that just be my usual routine?

“You guys, don’t say such irresponsible things.”

That’s right. Lumina-san please give me some advice. Ah, she diverted her eyes.

“That’s it. Luciel have balls right. You should be able to protect your own balls.”

Saran-san shot out words like an old man but, my life depends on my balls?

“Saran-san, even though your room is so girly, why are your remarks always so vulgar in that tavern old man tone of voice.”

“Shu ... shut up. I don’t want to be told that by you Elizabeth who speaks in a princess tone of voice but have a sloppy personality.”

“There there both of you calm down. You are both self-destructing.”

The two finally realised that I am present and sat down blushing, glaring at each other. Let sleeping dogs lie. I pretended to not notice.

“Well despite these reasons, if by the time we return you are still incompetent I will re-train you without any questions asked so be diligent.”

“Yes sir!” (*TL: In English*)

While still troubled by the problems without any resolutions, in response to Lumina-san’s words I placed my hand on my chest and replied at the top of my voice.

After that, while chatting and having our meals, we finally returned to our respective rooms.

I went towards the oba-chan and kindly requested her to prepare a large quantity of food for me.

After that, in order to replenish that, I went to the Adventurer’s Guild.

“Good evening.”

After calling out, I noticed that the waitress was a different one from the one before so I had her call the master out.

” ... To come back exactly one month later, did you really finish all of that?”

The master asked me with a startled expression.

“Of course. Ah, I will be going on a slight expedition so please prepare 10 barrels.”

” ... Hey are you the healer than came from Meratoni?”

For some reason the master asked. Don’t tell me, an assassination? I was fearful as I replied.

” ... Yes. One month had quickly passed by since I’ve arrived here.”

“By the way, do you work as a healer in the Holy City?”

It seemed like it was not for an assassination. But this enquiring gaze, why is it that I had a feeling I’ve seen this before.

“No~, I am currently employed by the church headquarters so it is impossible for me to live in the Adventurer’s Guild.”

” ... Is that so. Understood. I will prepare that so please wait a moment.”

He disappeared into the kitchen with a gloomy face.

“That expression, I am suuuper~ curious.”

Now that I’ve noticed, it’s pretty quiet today. Just when I thought about that, I saw injured people? being carried to the underground training grounds.

“Excuse me.”

There were few other customers around so I called out to the waitress.

“Do you wish to order?”

“No, it is the first time I’ve come out in a month but injured people are being carried underground, had something happened?”

“Yes. Lately, it seems that although the monsters have become more active, even high level monsters have appeared so the adventurer’s have been fighting an uphill battle.”

“I see. Is that why the master had that gloomy look?”

“Yes. Many of the master’s acquaintances have been injured.”

“What’s the response from the healer clinics?”

If it is healing, as long as it is not too severe it should be able to be healed?

“Everyone has severe wounds and cannot pay tens of gold coins. Are you telling the adventurers to become slaves?”

Eh? Had I said something terribly rude to this person I just met to warrant such anger? Hmm? Become slaves? Even though we are in the Holy City? My head was spinning round and round thinking about that. For starters I’ll deny that statement first.

“Eh? Nobody said that.” (Luciel)

“Mirinia! Stop it.”

The master came out and helped me.

“But master, this person said to consult the healer’s hospital ...”

As I've said before, those eyes are not a reward to me.

“If that's the case, how much would you charge?” (Master)

“Well~. One silver coin per person, the Pope and the Valkyrie Paladin Corps will help as much as possible if I am troubled. I will work hard to amend my unpleasant nicknames.”

” ... Then, show me your resolve by drinking this.”

『Don』 A mug was placed down and I began drinking.

“Glug, glug, glug, glug, fuuu~. Let's go. Ah, firstly please fill in those barrels.”

I confirmed the contents of the barrels with the master and placed them into my magic bag.

“Isn't that ... Never mind, follow me.”

Was he surprised by my magic bag? I wore the church's white robe and went towards the underground.

The place changed until it looked just like a field hospital.

Those who saw me coming down shot bloodthirsty looks at me.

No, the target of those gazes were not me but instead my white robe.

With just that small detail, a riot occurred.

“What did you come here for. Money-grubber.”

“To dare to come here, fall into hell.”

“Leave~”

“I'll kill you.”

Un. That's dangerous. It was so scary that with just a little bit more I would have leaked.

“Quiet down you idiots~!!”

The tavern master raised his voice.

The training grounds fell silent.

“This dude, no, this personage is the one known as the legendary healer from Meratoni city Masochist-sama. Even though he had come here to help at just one silver coin per person, if anybody have any complaints they can leave.”

“Zombie healer?”

“Eh, although he looks quite handsome but he’s called a masochist?”

“The masochist zombie healer wasn’t just an urban legend?”

“To only charge one silver coin, he’s just like a sage from a fairy tale.”

“Oi, hang in there, if it’s the Zombie-sama, then you might be saved.”

“Hang in there, Zombie-sama, quickly heal.”

The calls for zombie, zombie and zombie increased.

Damn it, that master had to say my zombie nickname. Wait a minute, in this case the beginning is where it is essential. I fired myself up and called out.

“I have no intention of stealing the customers from the other healer clinics. Today I just coincidentally came here to drink Object X. That is why, I cannot heal you all every time, please do not cause a riot or collide with the other healer clinics due to the higher prices.”

I made sure everyone around understood that.

“One silver coin per person, the Pope and Valkyrie Paladin Corps within the church will help out as much as possible if I am troubled. And stop with the unpleasant nicknames especially zombie and masochist, if not I will not heal you guys. If you all understand then I will begin. Ah, please gather the heavily injured.”

Then, immediately the individuals who collapsed due to injuries were gathered.

While expressing relief that my Holy attribute magic level became VIII after spending half a year, I spun my words.

【By the holy hand, by the breath of Mother Earth, by my wish using my magical power as sustenance become the breath of an angel, shelter everything and heal everyone, Area High Heal.】

Right after chanting the words, a huge ton of magical power was robbed from me but I maintained the magical power control and thought of curing them.

A pale light covered everybody within a 3 meter radius. When their bodies emitted light, like on rewind, their wounds resealed and even bent fractured arms were healed via a principle I had no understanding of.

“Fu~. I’ll begin the next one now.” (Luciel)

“Ah, yes. Oi those next up hurry up.”

With breaks in between, I casted another 2 「Area High Heal」 to heal the wounds.

Unfortunately, even though I healed them, I could not regenerate collapsed eyes or cleaved limbs.

But nobody complained or held grudges towards me who was trying my best to heal.

After my treatment ended, within the silence, they secretly discussed my nickname.

“He said that masochist and zombie are not allowed right?”

“He said that he hated them.”

“But then should we go with ‘sage’? Since he is a healer?”

“How should we do this. He likes combat even though he knows that he wouldn’t win right?”

“If that’s the case then the ‘healer combat maniac’?”

“That sounds awkward. How about because he helps people at a cheap price, the ‘cheap healer’?”

“He would definitely be attacked by the Healer’s Guild if we named him that.”

“Because masochist and zombie sounds good together, it’s hard to change it.”

“Then since he is a fine person, ‘saint-sama’?”

“He’s still young, that sounds too heavy.”

“If that’s the case, since he can drink that, how about ‘healer freak’?”

“That isn’t much different from masochist.”

“Then since he is like a saint but also a freak, then should we call him the ‘deviant saint’?”

“”That’s it!!””

“But, masochist and zombie still sounds the best after all.”

“That’s true.”

After I finished healing everyone, I was bathed in calls of ‘masochist’ and ‘zombie’ resulting in the blue vein on my forehead popping up as I received the treatment fee. I was on the verge of magic depletion, and this time fanned by Object X, I was now bathed in calls of ‘deviant saint’ so I left the Adventurer’s Guild.

Just like that a new nickname was added to my list of nicknames. I flew into the bed, wet the pillow with tears and vowed to the moon that rarely came out that I will work hard to train to be able to complain to the adventurers.